OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 5/28/61

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

3:50 p.m., EDST

ASAC Sylvester at Jackson, Mississippi, advised that the Trailways bus carrying freedom riders arrived in Jackson at 1:31 p.m., CST, and arrests were made with no incidents. Agents of the Jackson Resident Agency were obtaining further details which will be forwarded to the Bureau immediately.

4:25 p.m., EDST

The Trailways Bus # 5141, from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi, arrived in Mississippi and was escorted from the State line by Mississippi Highway Police in charge of Colonel T. P. Birdsong into Meridian, Mississippi, arriving at 11:24 a.m., CST. Assistant Chief of Police at Meridian, Mississippi, got on the bus at the station and told the Meridian passengers they should get off. There were no crowds and no incidents. A local radio announcer was on hand. There was no advanced publicity that the bus was arriving.

Three or four reporters and photographers were present. Bus left at 11:38 a.m., escorted from the State by two Meridian Police Department cars and two Mississippi Highway State Patrol cars. At this point, the bus was running thirty minutes late. The bus arrived in Jackson, being escorted (followed only) the entire way by two Mississippi Highway Patrol cars (unmarked); picked up at city line by two city Jackson police cars, who fell in behind the bus. The bus arrived at bus station 1:31 p.m. As the passengers departed, a group of Negroes and whites proceeded directly to the whites' waiting room. There were no signs indicating doors "out of order." The Negroes and whites (freedom riders) paused outside the ticket selling booth and were ordered by Captain [redacted] of the Jackson Police Department to move on. The group moved to the general area of the restaurant of the terminal building and were approached by two uniformed policemen. They advanced in that direction, at which time they were all arrested. No one was handcuffed; the policemen had only the usual side arms. The following freedom riders were arrested, placed in the patty wagon and taken to the jail:

157-387-1

63 JUN 15 1961

EX-108

REC-44

12 JUN 5 1961

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Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: FREEBUS

[redacted] Negro male,
William Mahoney, Negro male,
[redacted] White male,
[redacted] White male,
[redacted] Negro male,
[redacted], Negro male,
[redacted] Negro female,
[redacted] Negro male.

They were arrested for breach of peace, Section 2087.5 of the Mississippi Code. Currently being held at the Jackson Police Department.

Attorney [redacted] MISS. who has represented all groups of freedom riders, advised at 2:26 p.m. that he has not talked to this group yet, but is inclined to think they will not ask for or make bail. The police department used very few officers either on the street or in the bus station and only the regularly assigned police officers were on duty in the city. Reference to news coverage: On the first arrival on May 24, 1961, there were approximately 70 reporters, photographers, television representatives, etc.; there were approximately 20 today. No crowds gathered in the streets. The "patty wagon" in front of the bus depot attracted the curiousity of some people walking back from a cafeteria, but these persons were not allowed to stop and gather by the patty wagon on foot.

[redacted] advised M. D. Pierce, Chief of Detectives, Jackson Police Department, that the ninth freedom rider had gotten off in Alabama. She did not say where.

[redacted] Associated Press reporter, telephonically advised he understood [redacted] one of the Negro male freedom riders, who was the ninth rider, did come in on the bus but then took another bus to return to Montgomery, Alabama. He had no basis for this.

Attorney [redacted] MISS. advised that the group of nine WHICH was arrested this morning and will not make bail today.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] MISS. leader, says that they are not members of Core, but are members of the Student Non-Violence Committee, which is associated with the National Action Committee, Atlanta, Georgia. She said that one of their riders, name unknown to [redacted] left bus at small town in Alabama, town unknown.

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Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: FREEBUS

Captain [redacted] of the ~~Meridian~~ Jackson Police Department ascertained that [redacted] Negro male, one of the riders got off bus and went into colored waiting room, purchased ticket for New York, city unknown, and no attempt will be made to arrest him unless he violates a law of the State of Mississippi or the city of Jackson, Mississippi.

[redacted] Jackson Police Department, advised that there will be no municipal court held today for riders arrested, as no court is held in Jackson, Mississippi, on Sunday. The persons arrested have the opportunity of being released on a $500 appearance bond today. At the present, there is no indication they will.

Trials for all riders, including this group, will be held at 3 p.m., Monday, May 29, 1961, to accommodate news reporters, as a number of them have reservations and want to leave town tomorrow night.

5:13 p.m., EDST

ASAC Sylvester advised that Captain [redacted] advised that during the time of the arrests at Jackson a new recruit on duty, Officer [redacted] was involved in an incident. Captain [redacted] said that during the arrests he noticed photographers' flash bulbs going off and, after checking, found that Officer [redacted] was "frisking" one of the group. He immediately stopped him and said that previous instructions given to the officers were that none of the group was to be touched during the arrests. Officer [redacted] was apparently "frisking" the member of the group as part of the routine procedure in making arrests.

ASAC Sylvester said that the Hinds County Jail, where the group is incarcerated, has a capacity of 300. There are approximately 140 in jail at this time.

ASAC Sylvester advised that the report containing the investigation at Jackson will be ready and they expect to place the report on the 8:45 p.m., CST, Delta Airlines plane, scheduled to arrive at the Washington National Airport at 4:25 a.m., EDST, May 29, 1961. The report will come by air freight. He was instructed to advise the Bureau as soon as definite arrangements are made and advise as to the flight number and time of arrival in Washington.

SA [redacted] duty Agent, Washington Field Office, at 6 p.m., EDST, was instructed to make arrangements for an Agent to be available to pick up the report for delivery to the Bureau.

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Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: FREEBUS

He was told that he would be advised as to the flight number and time of arrival when definite arrangements have been received from Jackson, Mississippi. He was told that one of the two duty Agents at the Bureau would pick up the report at the airport if circumstances enable them to do so. However, if they are unable to do so, the Washington Field Office would be requested to pick up the report. A copy of the report is to be delivered to [redacted] Department, who will be in Room 1621 at 8 a.m., Monday, May 29, 1961.

The above information was furnished to the following officials of the Bureau:

[redacted] 5:20 p.m., May 28, 1961;
Mr. Evans, 5:30 p.m., May 28, 1961; and
Mr. Parsons, 5:40 p.m., May 28, 1961.

[redacted] of the Department was also advised of the above information at 4:30 p.m. 5/28/61. (received before 5:13 p.m.).

[redacted] Department, was advised of all subsequent information.

CONFIDENTIAL

May 26, 1961

The Attorney General

Director, FBI

REC-44 157-387-2

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
Domestic Administration Issues
Internal Security - Communist

The following information concerning the possibility on the part of the Communist Party, USA, to interject itself into the racial situation in Alabama has been received and I thought I should bring it to your attention.

A confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, has advised that James E. Jackson, editor of "The Worker" as well as being a member of the National Board, Communist Party, USA, and Herbert Aptheker, a member of the National Committee, Communist Party, USA, are leaving New York City on Monday, May 29, 1961, for Montgomery, Alabama. Jackson until recently was the Southern Regional Director of the Communist Party, USA.

Arrangements are being made by the Bureau to cover Jackson's and Aptheker's activities while they are on this trip.

The Department will be furnished pertinent information developed from this coverage.

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MAILED 9
MAY 26 1961
COMM-FBI

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 Byrd tcg
ON 6/9/00
#428602

1 - Mr. Belmont

RBL:ers:vjh
(12)

CONFIDENTIAL

XEROX
JUN 12 1961

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Belmont
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DeLoach
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Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
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Ingram
Gandy

JUN 1961

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UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 157-387-2

MAY 26 1 10 PM '61

FBI

TELETYPE UNIT

HOUSTON

MAY 31 PM 12:11

FBI-READING ROOM

b2

NOTE: The source of the information in [redacted] The letter is marked confidential since data reported by the source could reasonably result in identification of an informant of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 25 1961

TELETYPE

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b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Miss Ingram

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 5-25-61 12-13 PM AMP

TO DIRECTOR, FBI 157-373 100--3-83 /4/ AND SACS ATLANTA,

BALTIMORE, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS AND RICHMOND

FROM SAC, NEW YORK 157-391 100-89691 2 P.

FREEBUS ~~DASH~~ RACIAL MATTERS., CPUSA ~~DASH~~ DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES., IS DASH C. OFFICE OF ORIGIN MOBILE. [redacted]

[redacted] REPORTED ON MAY TWENTY FOUR, SIXTY ONE, GUS HALL, GENERAL SECRETARY, CPUSA, ADVISED THAT DATE THAT JAMES E. JACKSON, EDITOR OF ~~QUOTE~~ "THE WORKER" ~~END QUOTE~~ AND MEMBER OF NATIONAL BOARD, CPUSA, AND HERBERT APTHEKER, MEMBER NATIONAL COMMITTEE, CPUSA, ARE LEAVING NEW YORK CITY ON MONDAY, MAY TWENTY NINE, SIXTY ONE, FOR MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, ~~QUOTE~~ "TO DO A JOB FOR THE LEADERSHIP HERE." ~~END QUOTE~~. JACKSON AND APTHEKER WILL BE GONE A WEEK TO TEN DAYS AND WILL USE HALL-S NINETEEN SIXTY ONE OLDSMOBILE FOR TRIP. CAR DESCRIBED AS TAN, FOUR DOOR SEDAN, NEW YORK LICENSE THREE F DASH FIVE FOUR ONE EIGHT. JACKSON DESCRIBED AS NEGRO, FORTY SIX, FIVE FEET SIX INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, BLACK CURLY HAIR, BALDING, EYES BROWN, MEDIUM BUILD. APTHEKER DESCRIBED WHITE, FORTY FIVE, FIVE FEET NINE

END PAGE ~~ONE~~ TWO

INTERNAL SECURITY - COMMUNIST

Communist Party, USA

REC-44 157-391-2

JUN 7 1961

XEROX JUN 12 1961

Memo to Ag [redacted] 5/26/61 Cal: no rec

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/28/00 BY SP2 Kopatty #428602

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-3-83

INCHES, ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY POUNDS, BUSHY BROWN GREYING HAIR, EYES HAZEL, MEDIUM BUILD. INASMUCH AS JACKSON, UNTIL RECENTLY, WAS SOUTHERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR, CPUSA, IT IS ANTICIPATED HE PROBABLY WILL CONTACT GEORGE MEYERS, CURRENTLY HEAD OF SOUTHERN REGION IN BALTIMORE, AND [redacted] IN RICHMOND, MEMBER SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE, EN ROUTE TO MONTGOMERY. NEW YORK WILL FURNISH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING ITINERARY AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. PERTINENT OFFICES SHOULD EFFECT SUCH COVERAGE AS DEEMED FEASIBLE TO COVER JACKSON-S AND APTHEKER-S ACTIVITIES ON SAID TRIP. PHOTO FOLLOWS.

END AND ACK

HNY R4 WA NM

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Send memo to A.G.

cc Mr Rosen
Mr Belmont

4-572a (Rev. 2-19-60)
OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: MAY 26, 1961

FROM : N. P. Callahan

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Page 8303. Congressman Winstead, (D) Mississippi, spoke concerning the freedom riders. He stated "In a letter to the Attorney General, our most able colleague, the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina, Hon. Ralph J. Scott, has set forth the illegality and subversive purpose of the so-called freedom riders." Mr. Winstead included a copy of Mr. Scott's letter.

Original filed in: 66-1731-1972

157-387-
NOT RECORDED
102 JUN 16 1961

50 JUN 21 1961

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for MAY 25, 1961 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: June 6, 1961

FROM :

SUBJECT: **FREEDOM RIDE**
New Orleans, Louisiana,
to Jackson, Mississippi, 6/6/61
RACIAL MATTERS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

In connection with the seven freedom riders who traveled from New Orleans, Louisiana, to Jackson, Mississippi, today and were arrested by officers of the Jackson PD, SA has furnished the following background data:

APPROX. 1938
white male, aged 23. Residence Chicago, Illinois. Occupation,

APPROX. 1939
James Thomas McDonough, white male, aged 22. Residence 130 West Neck Road, Huntington, New York. Occupation, University of Toronto.

APPROX. 1937
white male, aged 24. Residence Brooklyn, New York. Occupation, Staten Island, New York.

APPROX. 1938
white, male, aged 23. Residence Madison, Wisconsin. Occupation

APPROX. 1909
Ernest Newell Weber, white, male, aged 52. Residence 279 Fourth Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey. Self employed as photographer.

APPROX. 1943
Negro, female, aged 18. Residence New Orleans, Louisiana.

APPROX. 1939
Negro male, aged 22. Residence Chicago, Illinois. Occupation, Chicago, Illinois.

157-387-3

JGK:ers
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REC-77

62 JUN 15 1961

6 JUN 7 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

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Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/7/61

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE
Memphis, Tennessee, to
Jackson, Mississippi
6/7/61
RACIAL MATTERS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SA Jackson, Mississippi, furnished the following background information concerning the freedom riders who were arrested today by the Jackson City Police Department following their travel from Memphis to Jackson.

B. APPROX.

(1) white male, age 23, New Haven, Connecticut, occupation, Yale University.

B. APPROX.

(2) white male, age 24, Grangeville, Idaho, occupation, Yale University.

B. APPROX.

(3) white female, age 22, New York City, occupation,

B. APPROX.

(4) Negro male, age 21, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, occupation, student, Richmond, Virginia.

B. APPROX.

(5) Negro male, age 21, Northeast, Washington, D. C., occupation, student Richmond, Virginia.

(6) Negro male, age 21, New Haven, Connecticut, occupation, student, Richmond, Virginia. B. APPROX.

REC-21 157-387-4

All of the above individuals were charged with breach of the peace under Section 2087.5, Mississippi Code.

They are presently confined in jail and are scheduled to be tried late this afternoon or early tomorrow.

JUN 8 1961

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63 JUN 15 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-7-61 5-23 WPQ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI, -9- AND SACS ATLANTA BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE AND NEW ORLEANS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

FROM SAC, NEW YORK 2P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTYONE, RACIAL MATTERS, CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CIVIL RIGHTS.

REBUTEL SIX SIX LAST. [redacted] IS NYC ATTORNEY. HE IS CURRENTLY [redacted] NEW YORK CHAPTER OF NAACP. HE IS AN ADMITTED FORMER MEMBER OF AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE AND AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY. HE LEFT THESE ORGANIZATIONS UPON DISCOVERING THEY WERE COMMUNIST DOMINATED. HE VOTED ALP NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY SIX, SEVEN AND EIGHT. HE WAS BACKED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY FOR ELECTION TO NAACP, BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE HE SOUGHT THIS BACKING. NO EVIDENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERSHIP. [redacted] IS DESCRIBED MALE, NEGRO, BORN [redacted] FIVE FEET ELEVEN AND THREE QUARTER INCHES TALL, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY SIX POUNDS, BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR, [redacted] IS MEMBER OF THE [redacted] AND IS AN ATTORNEY IN NYC. NO EVIDENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERSHIP ON [redacted] 1961 PART, ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SEVERAL COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS IN THE PAST. LANE SPOKE FOUR TWENTY ONE SIXTY ONE AT

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REC-20

END PAGE ONE

50 JUN 14 1961

PAGE TWO

RALLY OF NEW YORK COUNCIL TO ABOLISH THE UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE IN NEW YORK CITY [redacted] HE REGISTERED ALP NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT TO NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY TWO. [redacted] SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO PAREN NPPR ENPAREN IN NEW YORK CITY ON A SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY TRIAL IN NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE. [redacted] IS DESCRIBED AS WHITE MALE, BORN [redacted] BRONX, NEW YORK, SIX FEET TALL, WEIGHT , ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN POUNDS, BROWN HAIR, BROWN EYES, LIGHT COMPLEXION. RESIDENCE. [redacted] NEW YORK CITY. IN CONNECTION WITH TRIAL OF NPPR MEMBERS IN JANUARY NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE [redacted] APPLICATION FOR REDUCTION OF BAIL FOR TWO DEFENDANTS, STATED HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY AN ATTORNEY REPRESENTING OTHER DEFENDANTS IN THE CASE THAT FBI AGENTS HAD THREATENED AT LEAST ONE OF HIS CLIENTS WITH PENALTIES DUE TO THAT ATTORNEYS PARTICIPATION IN THE CASE , BUT COULD NOT OFFER ANY SPECIFIC INSTANCES. [redacted] HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ISADORE GIBBY NEEDLEMAN, WHO HAS BEEN UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. NEEDLEMAN WAS A CONTRIBUTOR TO [redacted] CAMPAIGN FUND IN OCTOBER NINETEEN SIXTY.

END

CORR PAGE TWO LINE 12 SHD READ AS FOLLOWS

OF NPPR MEMBERS IN JANUARY NINETEEN FIFTY FIVE [redacted] APPLICATION

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961

TELETYPE

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-7-61 8-10///////8-19 AM EST ESC

TO DIRECTOR, FBI, SACS BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS,
NEW YORK, NEWARK, SPRINGFIELD

FROM SAC, ATLANTA /157NEW/ 1P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GA. TO JACKSON, MISS., JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYONE, RM, CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CR. RE ATLANTA TEL TODAY. [redacted] NOT ACCOMPANIED BY [redacted] CHECKED OUT OF YMCA, ATLANTA TODAY. THEY BOUGHT TWO TICKETS TO MONTGOMERY, ALA. ON GREYNOUND BUS AND DEPARTED ON BUS NO. SIX ZERO FOUR ONE AT SEVEN FIFTEEN AM DUE TO ARRIVE MONTGOMERY ELEVEN FORTY AM. DRESS SAME AS DESCRIBED BY NEWARK. NO FURTHER CONTACT AT ONE NINE SEVEN ONEHALF AUBURN AVE., NE. [redacted] MADE RESERVATIONS ON FLIGHT NO. FIVE FOUR EIGHT, EASTERN AIRLINES; TO LEAVE ATLANTA FOR NEWARK ONE FIFTYFIVE PM, JUNE NINE NEXT. NO INCIDENTS ATLANTA.

END ACK

WA 9-23 AM OK FBI WA JDS

BH OK FBI BH MJK

MO OK FBI MO WLM

NO OK FBI NO OJT

NY OK FBI NY AMP

NK OK FBI NK MJM

PI W SI OK FBI SI RCR

TU DISCTZM

REC-3 157-387-6

9 JUN 8 1961

EX-102

6-Encl

58 JUN 14 1961

June 7, 1961

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PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

TO SACS NEWARK, NEW YORK AND ATLANTA

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, RM, COC, CR.

IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL OF [redacted]

OF NEW YORK TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED IT BE DETERMINED WHETHER ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING DECLARED PURPOSE OF [redacted] TRIP TO TEST BUS FACILITIES. ALL OFFICES CHECK APPROPRIATE SOURCES AND SUTEL IMMEDIATELY.

JGK:ers
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NOTE: Travel of [redacted] may be in violation of Federal Judge Johnson's restraining order issued 6/2/61. [redacted] upon arrival in Atlanta, Georgia 6/6/61 went to office of Freedom Ride Coordinating Committee sponsored by 3 groups specifically included in Judge Johnson's order. Data requested by Department re if such public announcement made, may tend to show [redacted] working in concert with organizations restrained under the order. SAC [redacted] of Mobile advised telephonically 6/7/61 that Mobile has no knowledge of such a public announcement.

REC-40 157-287-1

EX-113

19 JUN 8 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

62 JUN 14 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961

TELETYPE

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URGENT 6-7-61 N 5-40 M PM BH

TO SACS NEWARK, NEW YORK AND ATLANTA

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, RM, COC, CR. IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL OF [redacted] OF NE YORK TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED IT BE DETERMINED WHETHER ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING DECLARED PURPOSE OF [redacted] TRIP TO TEST BUS FACILITIES. ALL OFFICES CHECK APPROPRIATE SOURCES AND SUTEL IMMEDIATELY.

END ACK PLS

OK FBI NK JFH

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961

TELETYPE

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URGENT 6-7-61 5-37 M PM BH

TO SACS NEWARK, NEW YORK AND ATLANTA

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, XRM, COC, CR.

IN CONNECTION WITH TRAVEL OF [redacted] OF NE YORK TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED IT BE DETERMINED WHETHER ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING DECLARED PURPOSE OF [redacted] TRIP TO TEST BUS FACILITIES. ALL OFFICES CHECK APPROPRIATE SOURCES AND SUTEL IMMEDIATELY.

END ACK PLS

LAST TWO WORDS NOT CLEAR AT

ARRRRXXXX

SUTEL IMMEDIATELY.

LAST TWO WORDS SECOND LINE NOT CLERAR AT

SIXTY-ONE, XRM, COC, CR.

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OK FBI AT WJB

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961

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TELETYPE

URGENT 6-7-61 5-35 PM BH

TO SACS NEWARK, NEW YORK /7/ AND ATLANTA

FROM DIRECTOR 1P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTY-ONE, RM, COC, CR.

INC ONNECTION WITH TRAVEL OF [redacted] OF NE YORK TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED IT BE DETERMINED WHETHER ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING DECLARED PURPOSE OF [redacted] TRIP TO TEST BUS FACILITIES. ALL OFFICES CHECK APPROPRIATE SOURCES AND SUTEL IMMEDIATELY.

END ACK PLS

WA R 7 NY JFA

HOLD

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Malone
Mr. Evans
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961

TELETYPE

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-6-61 1-15 AM EST HHS

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S RICHMOND, MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS AND CINCINNATI

FROM SAC, ATLANTA 157-232

FREEBUS, RM. [redacted] FREEDOM RIDE COORDINATING COMMITTEE, ADVISED FOUR NEGRO STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS [redacted] LEAVING RICHMOND, VA., JUNE SIX BY TRAILWAY BUS IN ROUTE JACKSON, MISS. WILL TRAVEL THROUGH NASHVILLE AND MEMPHIS, TENN. PLAN TO TEST BUS FACILITIES JACKSON, MISS. [redacted] FURTHER ADVISED [redacted] BOTH WHITE AND [redacted] BOTH NEGRO LEAVING WILBERFORCE, OHIO, JUNE SEVEN VIA NASHVILLE AND MEMPHIS ON TRAILWAY BUS IN ROUTE JACKSON, MISS. TO TEST FACILITIES.

EX-116

END AND ACK IN OR PLS

WA CORR NO ADVISED SEPARATELY

WA 2-23 AM OK FBI WA ELR

RH OK FBI RH WEG

ME OK FBI ME JB

CI OK FBI CI RES

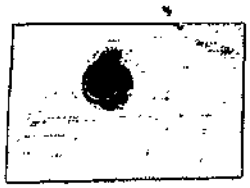
TU DISC VVWCI OPR CI OPR

REC-17 157-387-8

JUN 8 1961

6 - Ken

56 JUN 13 1961



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961

TELETYPE

b6
b7C
b2
b7D

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

URGENT 6-6-61 5-09 PM EST PS

TO DIRECTOR AND SAC, JACKSONVILLE

FROM SAC, MIAMI I P

HAVANA SPECIAL NUMBER SEVEN FIVE, FLA. EAST COAST RAILROAD EN ROUTE TO MIAMI SIX FIVE SIXTY ONE., RACIAL MATTERS. [redacted] WHEN BOARDING CAPTIONED TRAIN AT TEN PM AT JACKSONVILLE, FLA., OVERHEARD CONDUCTOR INSTRUCTING PORTER TO SEPARATE WHITE AND COLORED PEOPLE AS THEY BOARDED TRAIN. LATER CONDUCTOR TOLD SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING CI THAT HE COULD NOT INTEGRATE HIS TRAIN IN VIEW OF TROUBLE CAUSED BY QUOTE FREEDOM RIDERS UNQUOTE. CIC AND MIAMI PD NOTIFIED. JACKSONVILLE NOTIFY CIC, PD AND SECURITY OFFICE, FLA. EAST COAST RAILROAD.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 6-11 PM OK FBIWA WS

JK OK FBI JK SRF

TU

REC-8 157-387-9

11 JUN 8 1961

EX-113

56 JUN 13 1961

cc [redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-7-61 3-15 AM EST HHS

TO DIRECTOR, FBI ANDSAC-S BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS,
NEW YORK, NEWARK AND SPRINGFIELD
NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM SAC, ATLANTA 157-NEW 3P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GA. TO JACKSON MISS., JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYONE, RM., CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CR.

REBUTEL JUNE SIX LAST. [redacted] OBSERVED ARRIVING ATLANTA ON EASTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT FIVE ONE FIVE AT SEVEN FORTY PM JUNE SIX LAST. PROCEEDED TO ONE NINE SEVEN AND ONE HALF AUBURN AVE., N.E. ATLANTA WHERE THEY MET UNKNOWN NEGRO MALE, THIRTY, SIX FT. ONE IN., ONE SIXTY POUNDS, SLENDER, DARK BROWN, CURLY BLACK HAIR, WEARING WHITE COAT, BLACK SLACKS, STRAWHAT. ONE NINE SEVEN AND ONE HALF AUBURN AVE., N.E. IS THE OFFICE OF THE FREEDOM RIDE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE WHICH WAS SET UP BY SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, STUDENT NON DASH VIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE, AND CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY. THE

EX-116 REC-8 157-387-10

JUN 8 1961

END PAGE ONE ...

FBI
REC'D - CIA FLIGHTS

63 JUN 14 1961

RELAYED TO [illegible]

FREEDOM RIDERS MISC.

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO...

THREE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS STAYED AT THIS OFFICE FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR THEN CHECKED INTO NEGRO Y.M.C.A., BUTLER STREET. UNKNOWN REGISTERED AS [redacted] [redacted] KANKAKEE, ILL. [redacted] FURNISHED ADDRESS AS [redacted] [redacted] NYC. [redacted] IS CONNECTED WITH CORE AND HAS BEEN IN ATLANTA SEVERAL DAYS. FOR INFO SPRINGFIELD BUREAU ADVISED THAT [redacted] WHITE MALE, N.Y. [redacted] [redacted] NEGRO MALE, MEMBER OF N.Y. BAR AND POSSIBLY [redacted] OF N.Y. CHAPTER OF NAACP, WERE GOING FROM NEWARK TO JACKSON, MISS. VIA ATLANTA. [redacted] WIRED JUSTICE DEPT. HE VIEWS WITH ALARM UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH RESIDENTS OF N.Y. BY ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITIES AND HE AND [redacted] ARE GOING TO ALABAMA AND MISS. TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION AND TO GIVE LEGAL COUNSEL TO INDIVIDUALS UNLAWFULLY DETAINED BY STATE

END PAGE TWO...

b6
b7C

AUTHORITIES. TRAVEL IN ALABAMA MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER ISSUED BY USDJ FRANK M. JOHNSON, JR. ON JUNE SECOND LAST. SPRINGFIELD IDENTIFY [redacted] AND SUTEL RESULTS TO BUREAU, ATLANTA, MOBILE, BIRMINGHAM AND NEW ORLEANS. NO INCIDENTS ATLANTA. FISUR CONTINUES.

END AND ACK IN OR PLS

WA 4-25 AM OK FBI WA HFL

BH OK FBI BH WHC

MO OK FBI MO WLM

NK OK FBI NK WPN

SI OK FBI SI RCR

FBI NO 0711 ADVISED SEPARATELY

TU DISC MT

CONFIDENTIAL

The Attorney General June 7, 1961

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 Bza ltcg
ON 6/9/00 # 428602

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

Seven freedom riders traveled from New Orleans by Trailways Bus, arriving at Jackson, Mississippi, at 11:27 a.m., June 6, 1961. They were arrested upon arrival and convicted of breach of the peace. Each was fined $200 and sentenced to four months in jail with sixty days of the sentence suspended.

We have received information indicating that the following freedom rides have been scheduled:

Six freedom riders traveling from Nashville by bus are scheduled to arrive at Jackson, Mississippi, at 12:45 p.m., June 7, 1961.

Three freedom riders are scheduled to fly from St. Louis to Jackson, Mississippi, arriving at 4:55 p.m., June 7, 1961.

Twelve freedom riders plan to travel from Nashville to Jackson, Mississippi, on June 8, 1961, and will probably travel by bus.

Nine freedom riders are scheduled to travel from New Orleans to Jackson, Mississippi, on June 9, 1961. Their method of travel is unknown.

Seven freedom riders intend to travel from Rock Hill, South Carolina, to Jackson, Mississippi, on either June 12, 1961, or June 13, 1961. Their method of travel is unknown.

Nine freedom riders are scheduled to travel from Washington, D. C., to Jackson, Mississippi, on either June 12, 1961, or June 13, 1961. Their method of travel is unknown.

See note page 4.

JUN 7 2 44 PM '61 FBI READING ROOM

MAILED 2 JUN 7 1961 COMM-FBI

REC-[illegible] 62-3872-11

19 JUN 8 1961

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan

WLM:jam (16)

62 JUN 13 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b7D
Misc 77 CIV 999 USDC SDNY

The Attorney General

[redacted] member of the New York State [redacted] a New York attorney and [redacted] of the New York Chapter, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), flew to Atlanta on June 6, 1961. [redacted] has previously informed the Department of Justice that he and [redacted] will proceed to Montgomery, Alabama, and Jackson, Mississippi, by bus using "all facilities available to persons traveling within the U. S."

A group of Cornell University students was to leave Ithaca, New York, by airplane June 6, 1961, to join freedom riders at an undisclosed location in the South. An additional group is planning to leave Ithaca on June 12, 1961.

[redacted] has been in contact with several Communist Party members in the past and has also associated with the subject of an espionage investigation but there is no evidence that he is a member of the Communist Party. On April 21, 1961, he spoke at a rally of the New York Council to Abolish the Un-American Activities Committee.

[redacted] and in 1955 he represented several members of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico who were tried for seditious conspiracy.

[redacted] has admitted former membership in the American Veterans Committee and American Youth for Democracy. He allegedly left these organizations upon discovering that they were under communist domination.

[redacted] was supported by the Communist Party when he was [redacted] of the New York Chapter of the NAACP. There is no evidence that he sought such backing or that he is a member of the Communist Party.

An informant has advised that a meeting of the Congress of Racial Equality will be held in Washington, D. C., on [redacted] 1961, at [redacted] It was stated that the principal speaker will be [redacted] It is not known at this time whether the speaker is the [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ERS

[redacted] b6 b7C

The Attorney General

The Communist Party is continuing its efforts to exploit this issue. We have been informed that the New York State Communist Party is formulating plans for the purpose of sending a bus load of white and Negro freedom riders from New York City to Alabama or Mississippi each week beginning in June, 1961.

Communist Party members are being urged to attend and financially support an all day meeting to be held at the Salem Methodist Church in New York City on June 10, 1961. This meeting will be devoted to freedom rides and it has been reported that several prominent ministers are to speak.

[redacted] Communist Party [redacted] Queens County, New York, has allegedly made reference to a rally for the freedom riders to be held at Union Square, New York City, on June 13, 1961, and he also mentioned that Harry Belafonte is scheduled to campaign and solicit funds for the freedom riders.

On the evening of June 5, 1961, there was a peaceful demonstration in Chicago in front of the Trailways Bus terminal. An interracial group of approximately seventy persons carried signs supporting the freedom riders.

The rally sponsored by the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights was held in Chicago on the evening of June 5, 1961. This was attended by approximately four or five hundred persons of whom fifty per cent were reported to be Negroes. Information has been received that $498 was collected at the rally. The principal speaker was Dr. Walter Bergman, a retired professor from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Bergman requested college students, upon completion of their final examinations, to take one day's training in Chicago and then to proceed south by bus to fill the jails in Jackson, Mississippi.

Another demonstration at the Trailways Bus terminal in Chicago has been announced for June 10, 1961.

[redacted]

- 3 -

ers

CONFIDENTIAL

The Attorney General

We are continuing to vigorously press all aspects of this matter which indicate a violation. We will continue to follow other phases through sources and informants, and the Department will be promptly advised of future pertinent developments.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

NOTE: This memo is classified "~~Confidential~~" because exposure of the informants would adversely affect defense interests of the U. S.

ers

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-6-61 2-18 AM CST TJB

TO DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC ST. LOUIS

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS /157-264/ 1-P

FREEBUS. [redacted] CORE REPRESENTATIVE, JACKSON, MISS., ADVISED THAT GROUP OF FREEDOM RIDERS WILL LEAVE ST.LOUIS, MO., ABOUT NOON JUNE SIX VIA AIRLINES DESTINATION JACKSON, MISS., TO TEST FACILITIES JACKSON AIRPORT. [redacted] HAS NO FURTHER DETAILS. ST.LOQUIS CONTACT CORE REPRESENTATIVE [redacted] ST.LOUIS, HOME PHONE NUMBER F O SEVEN SIX THREE EIGHT THREE, OFFICE PHONE C H ONE FIVE ZERO EIGHT EIGHT. SECURE ALL FLIGHT DATA NAMES OF RIDERS AND DESCRIPTIONS IF KNOWN. SUTEL. ABOVE INFO BUREAU.

END AND ACK PLS.

WA 4-20 AM OK FBI WA HFL

SSL OK FBI SL JPH

TU DICO

REC-64 157-387-12

EX-113

JUN 7 1961

6 - Rec'd

JUN 6 9 33 AM '61
FBI
JUN 14 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 6/7/61

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, TO
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, 6/7/61
RACIAL MATTERS

With reference to the six freedom riders who departed Memphis, Tennessee, this morning en route to Jackson, Mississippi, SA [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, has furnished the following information:

The Trailways bus (#5708) carrying the freedom riders arrived at the Trailways bus station, Jackson, Mississippi, at 1:12 p.m., CST, today (3:12 p.m. Washington time). The freedom riders immediately disembarked from the bus and the three white members of the group proceeded into the colored waiting room of the depot, while the three Negro members proceeded into the white waiting room. They were ordered to move on by officers of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, and upon refusing to comply, were arrested and charged with breach of the peace. The arrests occurred at 1:25 p.m., CST (3:25 p.m. Washington time).

There was no crowd at the bus depot, no disturbance occurred and the arrests were carried out in an orderly manner.

The arrested freedom riders will be tried either late this afternoon or tomorrow.

JGK:dsj
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 Byrtus #428020

157-389-13

REC-10

9 JUN 9 1961

50 JUN 16 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 3, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
M
See Me: Travel
Call Me Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy
Reading Room
Mail Room

SYNOPSIS

Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. issued a preliminary injunction on 6/2/61 against two klan groups, their officials, and other named individuals. The effect of the preliminary injunction is to prevent interference, by those concerned, with the free movement of individuals in interstate commerce through or into Alabama.

Johnson also issued a temporary restraining order against the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Montgomery County Jail Council, the Student Nashville Nonviolent Movement and Negro leaders. The order restrains these groups and individuals from sponsoring, assisting or encouraging individuals to travel in interstate commerce to test state or local laws relating to racial segregation.

Two groups of freedom riders traveled by Trailways bus from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi, according to plan on 6/2/61. Both groups tested bus terminal facilities in Montgomery prior to their departure without incident. Upon arrival in Jackson, they tested facilities there and were arrested by local police. A total of 13 were arrested and are in jail.

The second group tested facilities in Montgomery subsequent to the issuance of a temporary restraining order against groups and individuals involved in the freedom rider movement. Judge Johnson desired no action concerning this incident.

[redacted] one of the white members of the second group, was arrested by Dallas County, Alabama, authorities at Selma, Alabama, as a result of a complaint by an elderly white female passenger. She swore out a warrant against [redacted] who was charged with breach of the peace and assault.

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Conn/JS 4/10/79

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 pz/tcg #438602

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

FCW:jam
(9)

157-387-14

REC-85

JUN 7 1961

63 JUN 15 1961

COPY TO MR. TOLSON

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b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: FREEBUS

[redacted] a student at Virginia Union University, advised that he is the leader of a group of five Negro students from the university who plan to travel by bus to Jackson, Mississippi, as freedom riders on 6/5/61.

At a meeting of the Cornell Committee Against Segregation on 6/2/61, [redacted] a freedom rider, allegedly described Louisiana and Mississippi as essentially police states and he accused the New Orleans Police Department of having a corps of dogs trained to attack freedom riders and Negroes. Also allegedly stated telephones of CORE* members tapped by New Orleans police. [redacted] was arrested 5/30/61 in Jackson as a freedom rider and paid his fine 6/1/61.

* Congress of Racial Equality

A Freedom Rally is scheduled to be held in a New York City Baptist Church on the evening of 6/5/61 to protest jailing of freedom riders and secure Federal protection for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Reverends Abernathy, Shuttlesworth and Martin Luther King, Jr., are allegedly among speakers. Information received that Reverend Shuttlesworth has accepted a church at [redacted]

Gus Hall, General Secretary of the Communist Party (CP), urged organized support of freedom riders at city-wide CP meeting in New York City 5/31/61. Stressed the writing of letters and telegrams to the President and the Attorney General requesting them to fulfill their election promises on civil rights.

Max Thomas, Superintendent of Hinds County Penal Farm who was suspended 5/29/61 after complaints of mistreatment on part of two freedom riders, was reinstated on 6/2/61. Investigation by sheriff of freedom rider's charges reportedly found no mistreatment. Sheriff's findings based on statements from Thomas and various individuals present at the time, including Negro prisoners.

It is reported that the hunger strike of the freedom riders in Jackson, Mississippi, jail is continuing.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the Attorney General.

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

DETAILS

The freedom riders who had assembled in Montgomery on 6/1/61 proceeded to Jackson, Mississippi, according to plan on 6/2/61. They traveled in two groups.

The first group, consisting of four Negroes and three whites, departed by Trailways bus at 7:35 a.m. after testing the facilities in the Montgomery Trailways bus station. There were no incidents. A number of police officers and photographers were present but there were very few spectators. Upon arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, six members of this group tested the depot facilities and were promptly arrested and charged with breach of the peace. The seventh member of the group reportedly did not test facilities because he had to return to his home for an emergency. The six who were arrested are in jail and trial has been set for 3:00 p.m., Monday, 6/5/61.

The second group, consisting of five Negroes and three whites, departed Montgomery at 11:30 a.m. by Trailways bus. This group originally consisted of seven members; however, an additional member joined the group in Montgomery. The bus terminal facilities were tested without incident prior departure. It is noted that this occurred shortly after Federal Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr. had issued a temporary restraining order against various groups and individuals involved in the freedom rider movement, as well as a preliminary injunction against two klan groups, their officials, and other named individuals. The effect is to prevent interference by all concerned with the free movement of individuals in interstate commerce. The judge desired no action re this incident.

An incident occurred while the second group was en route from Montgomery to Jackson. At Selma, Alabama, an elderly white woman left the bus and swore out a warrant against Ralph D. Fertig, one of the white freedom riders. The charge was breach of the peace and assault. Fertig was arrested by Dallas County, Alabama, authorities and the bus, along with the complainant, then continued on its way.

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Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

Upon reaching Jackson, Mississippi, the remaining seven freedom riders were arrested in the bus terminal by Jackson Police in connection with their attempts to test facilities there. There were no incidents. No trial date has yet been set for this group and none have attempted to make bond. They are in the Jackson City Jail.

The temporary restraining order was issued against the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Montgomery County Jail Council, the Student Nashville Nonviolent Movement, [redacted] Martin Luther King, Jr., [redacted] Ralph D. Abernathy [redacted]. This order restrains the groups and individuals and those acting in concert with them from sponsoring, assisting or encouraging individuals to travel in interstate commerce for the purpose of testing the state or local laws relating to racial segregation and from committing any act designed to cause violence upon passengers in interstate commerce. Hearing on order scheduled for 6/12/61.

[redacted] a student at Virginia Union University, advised on 6/2/61 that he is the leader of a group of five Negro students of the University who plan to go to Jackson, Mississippi, as freedom riders on 6/5/61. They will travel by unchartered Trailways bus and the date of arrival in Jackson is as yet unknown since the group will lay over a few hours in Atlanta, Georgia, to coordinate plans with [redacted] of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. [redacted] stated he knew of no other individuals from any surrounding areas who plan to travel as freedom riders.

It is noted information had previously been received that members of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity, Cornell University, were planning to travel to New Orleans to serve as freedom riders. Sources at Cornell University have not confirmed this and now state that no members of the fraternity have been recruited for this purpose.

At a meeting of the Cornell Committee Against Segretation, held on 6/2/61, mention was made that a group had left from one fraternity but neither the participants nor the fraternity was further identified. One of the speakers at this meeting was [redacted] a freedom rider who went from New Orleans to Jackson by train on 5/30/61 and was arrested at the station in Jackson. We have been advised that he paid his fine and departed Jackson by airplane 6/1/61 en route to Syracuse, New York.

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b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

At the meeting [redacted] allegedly described Louisiana and Mississippi as essentially police states and he accused the New Orleans Police Department of having a canine corps of dogs trained to attack freedom riders and Negroes. [redacted] is also alleged to have stated that telephones of CORE members are tapped by the New Orleans Police Department which cooperates with the White Citizens Council, turning information on CORE over to the council. Speakers at the meeting encouraged freedom riders to go south in groups and by train as this means is more economical and is safer. It was reported that efforts are now being made to recruit white females as freedom riders.

It has been reported that a Freedom Rally will be held at Mount Olivete Baptist Church in New York City at 8:30 p.m., 6/5/61. The purpose of the rally is allegedly to protest the jailing of freedom riders and to secure Federal protection for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Speakers reportedly will include Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., Reverend Ralph A. Abernathy and Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth. Sponsors of the rally are reported to be the Social Action Commission of the Empire State Baptist Convention and the New York Division of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

With respect to Reverend Shuttlesworth, information has been received to the effect that Shuttlesworth has stated he has conditionally accepted a church at [redacted]

Communist Party (CP) interest in the freedom ride movement continues to be high. A confidential informant has advised that a large city-wide CP meeting was held 5/31/61 in New York City at which Gus Hall, General Secretary of the party, urged organized support of the freedom riders. He stressed an increase in the number and size of protests and the writing of letters and telegrams to President Kennedy and the Attorney General, asking them to fulfill their election promises on civil rights.

* Congress of Racial Equality

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

It will be recalled that Max Thomas, Superintendent of the Hinds County Penal Farm, was suspended on 5/29/61 after two freedom riders alleged they had been mistreated for failing to answer questions "Yes sir" or "No sir." Sheriff J. Robert Gilfoy of Hinds County advised on 6/2/61 that Superintendent Thomas had been reinstated. Sheriff Gilfoy had conducted an investigation and had reported that victim [redacted] who had claimed he was struck with a blackjack, was not hit but instead got a small laceration on the head during a scuffle with Thomas while Thomas was defending himself. The sheriff stated his findings were based on statements taken from Thomas, three guards, a jailer and ten inmates, both white and Negro, who were chosen at random.

It is reported that the freedom riders in jail at Jackson, Mississippi, are continuing their hunger strike.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 7, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

SYNOPSIS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 BJA/tcg #42,802

Seven freedom riders from New Orleans arrested upon arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, 6/6/61 and convicted same date of breach of the peace.

Each freedom rider sentenced to four months in jail of which 60 days was suspended and fined $200. All prior sentences consisted of a $200 fine and 60 days in jail with entire jail sentence suspended.

Seventy-two freedom riders have now been arrested at Jackson since 5/24/61. Seventeen have been released on bond, two have been released on payment of fines and 53 remain in custody.

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Six freedom riders from Nashville are to arrive at Jackson, 12:45 p.m., 6/7/61, by bus. Three freedom riders are scheduled to fly from St. Louis to Jackson, Mississippi, arriving at 4:55 p.m., Central Standard Time, 6/7/61.

Twelve freedom riders plan to travel from Nashville to Jackson probably by bus 6/8/61.

Nine freedom riders will travel from New Orleans to Jackson 6/9/61, method of travel unknown.

Seven freedom riders will travel from Rock Hill, South Carolina, to Jackson 6/12/61 or 6/13/61, method of travel unknown.

Nine freedom riders will travel from Washington, D. C., to Jackson 6/12/61 or 6/13/61, method of travel unknown.

157-387-15
REC-46
13 JUN 8 1961

[redacted] member of New York State Legislature and [redacted] New York attorney and possibly [redacted] of New York Chapter, NAACP, flew to Atlanta 6/6/61. [redacted] has previously stated they will proceed to Montgomery, Alabama, and Jackson, Mississippi, by bus. [redacted] have both had questionable relationships with communists but are not known to be members of the Communist Party.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

63 JUN 15 1961

WLM:jam (9)

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: FREEBUS

A group of Cornell University freedom riders was to leave Ithaca, New York, 6/6/61, by airplane to join other freedom riders at an undisclosed location in the South. An additional group plans to leave Ithaca 6/12/61.

Information received that [redacted] will speak at a meeting of Congress of Racial Equality in Washington, D. C., 6/11/61. It is not yet known whether [redacted]

New York State Communist Party reportedly plans to send a bus load of freedom riders from New York to Alabama or Mississippi each week beginning this month.

Communist Party members are being urged to lend moral and financial support to an all day meeting 6/10/61 at the Salem Methodist Church, New York City, which will deal with freedom riders.

Communist Party Chairman, Queens County, New York, made reference to a rally for the freedom riders planned for 6/13/61 at Union Square and mentioned that Harry Belafonte is scheduled to campaign for and solicit funds for freedom riders.

[redacted] one of four subjects arrested by FBI in connection with bus burning at Anniston, Alabama, 5/14/61, was released on $5,000 bond 6/6/61. [redacted] klan leader who previously made bond for a co-subject of [redacted] accompanied two other individuals who made bond for [redacted]

Conductor of East Coast Railroad's Havana Special reportedly segregated passengers at Jacksonville, 6/5/61.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the information of the Attorney General.

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

DETAILS

Seven freedom riders traveled from New Orleans by Trailways Bus, arriving at Jackson, Mississippi, 11:27 a.m., 6/6/61. They immediately proceeded to the white waiting room of the bus depot and were arrested without incident. They were convicted the same date of breach of the peace and each was fined $200 and sentenced to serve four months in jail of which 60 days was suspended. All prior sentences have consisted of a $200 fine and 60 days in jail with the entire jail sentence suspended.

A total of 72 freedom riders have now been arrested at Jackson, Mississippi, since 5/24/61. Seventeen have been released on bond, two have been released upon payment of their fines and 53 remain in custody.

Charles R. Oldham, attorney, National Chairman of Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), St. Louis, advised that a group of freedom riders consisting of two Negro males and one Negro female will depart from St. Louis 6/7/61 at 2:55 p.m., Central Daylight Time, via Delta Airlines Flight Number 465, en route to Jackson, Mississippi, where they will arrive at 4:55 p.m., Central Standard Time.

[redacted] CORE representative at Jackson, Mississippi, advised that 12 freedom riders will arrive in Jackson from Nashville, Tennessee, on 6/8/61 and they will probably travel by bus. Nine freedom riders will arrive on 6/9/61 from New Orleans, method of travel unknown; 7 freedom riders will arrive 6/12/61 or 6/13/61 from Rock Hill, South Carolina, method of travel unknown; and nine freedom riders will arrive on 6/12/61 or 6/13/61 from Washington, D. C., method of travel unknown.

[redacted] member of the New York State Legislature, [redacted] a New York attorney and [redacted] of the New York Chapter, NAACP, departed from Newark by Eastern Airlines at 6:00 p.m., 6/6/61, to arrive in Atlanta, Georgia, at 7:43 p.m., 6/6/61. [redacted] is white and [redacted] is a Negro. [redacted] sent a telegram to the Department indicating that he and [redacted] will proceed to Montgomery, Alabama, and Jackson, Mississippi, by bus, using "all facilities available to persons traveling within the U. S."

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

[redacted] has been in contact with several members of the Communist Party in the past although there is no evidence that [redacted] himself is a member. On 4/21/61 Lane spoke at a rally in New York City of the New York Council to Abolish the Un-American Activities Committee [redacted]

[redacted] several members of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico at a seditious conspiracy trial in 1955. In his application for reduction of bail for two defendants, [redacted] stated that he had been informed by an attorney representing other defendants that FBI Agents had threatened at least one of his clients with penalties due to the other attorney's participation in the case. [redacted] could not back this up.

[redacted] has also been in contact with Isidore Gibby Needleman, who has been under investigation for espionage activities and who contributed to [redacted] campaign fund in October, 1960.

[redacted] registered as supporting the American Labor Party from 1948 to 1952.

[redacted] is an admitted former member of the American Veterans Committee and American Youth for Democracy. He reportedly left these organizations upon discovering that they were under communist domination. The Communist Party backed his election to the office of President of the New York Chapter, NAACP, but there is no evidence that he sought this backing or that he is a member of the Communist Party.

[redacted] voted the American Labor Party ticket in 1946, 1947 and 1948.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

A source at Cornell University has advised that a group was to leave Ithaca, New York, 6/6/61, by airplane to join the freedom riders at an undisclosed location in the South. An additional group is planning to leave Ithaca, 6/12/61.

An informant has advised that a meeting of CORE is scheduled to be held [redacted] The meeting will deal with the freedom rides and [redacted] is scheduled to be the main speaker. It is not known at this time whether the speaker is [redacted]

A reliable source has advised that [redacted] Communist Party [redacted] Queens County, New York, stated that the New York State Communist Party is formulating plans for the purpose of sending a bus load of white and Negro freedom riders from New York City to Alabama or Mississippi each week beginning in June, 1961.

It was also reported that [redacted] discussed an all day meeting to be held at [redacted] The agenda deals with the freedom riders and several prominent ministers are to speak. Communist Party members are being urged to attend this meeting for the purpose of lending moral and financial support.

[redacted] made reference to a rally for the freedom riders that is planned to be held 6/13/61 at Union Square and mentioned that Harry Belafonte is scheduled to campaign for and solicit funds to support the freedom riders.

[redacted] one of the four subjects arrested by the FBI in connection with the bus burning in Anniston, Alabama, on 5/14/61, was released on $5,000 bond, 6/6/61. The bond was provided by [redacted] and Johnny Brooks who were accompanied by [redacted] is a klan leader who previously made bond for [redacted] who was arrested with [redacted] is presently the subject of a Fraud Against the Government investigation in that he falsely represented that the property used on [redacted] bond was free of encumberance.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

A confidential informant has advised that he boarded the East Coast Railroad, "Havana Special," at Jacksonville, Florida, at 10:00 p.m., 6/5/61. Informant overheard the conductor instructing the porter to separate white and colored people as they boarded the train. Later the conductor told several people that he could not integrate his train in view of the trouble caused by freedom riders. The train was en route to Miami.

[redacted] Student Nonviolent Movement, Nashville, Tennessee, advised that six freedom riders will leave Nashville at 1:10 a.m., 6/7/61, by Trailways Bus, scheduled to arrive at Memphis 6:25 a.m., 6/7/61. They will leave Memphis at 7:45 a.m. by Trailways Bus to arrive at Jackson, Mississippi, 12:45 p.m., Central Standard Time, 6/7/61 [redacted] stated that the group may test the facilities at Memphis but the primary purpose of the trip is to test the facilities at Jackson.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/4/61

Time of Call: 1:20 p.m.

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEBUS FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SAC Crosby, El Paso, was contacted to determine results of his inquiry into information furnished by [redacted] SAC Crosby stated a closing teletype was en route.

He pointed out briefly that [redacted] had been interviewed and [redacted] had been reinterviewed. It is now apparent that the facts as furnished by [redacted] about a "caravan" were untrue. [redacted] did not volunteer the reported information to [redacted] it was apparently a case of [redacted] putting the words in [redacted] mouth.

The logical route to be taken by any such caravan would go through Midland, Texas. A discreet surveillance was conducted by the police department from 1:15 to 5:00 a.m., CST, and no pertinent information was noted.

El Paso furnished Los Angeles with copy of its teletype and does not intend to take any further action.

ACTION:

None. For information. Mr. Rosen should be advised of results when he is next contacted.

REC- 90

15 JUN 13 1961

jls:dsj
(3)

EX.-104

25 JUN 8 1961

63 JUN 15 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 4 1961

TELETYPE

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-4-61 9-51 ~~PM~~ AM MST RAR

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, LOS ANGELES

FROM SAC, EL PASO FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

"ALLEGED CARAVAN OF CARS EASTBOUND ON HIGHWAY EIGHTY - EL PASO COUNTY [redacted] TEXAS INFORMANT." ATTENTION CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION.

RE MY TEL CALL TO BU THIS SUBJECT SIX THREE SIXTY ONE. [redacted]

[redacted] INTERVIEWED BY BUAGENTS. HE STATED HE CONTACTED [redacted] AT TORNILLO ABOUT SEVEN P.M. SIX THREE SIXTYONE [redacted] STOPPED A CAR HEADING EAST FULL OF COLORED MEN AND HAD SEEN A COUPLE MORE CARS CARRYING COLORED PEOPLE ALSO HEADING EAST AND [redacted] WONDERED WHAT IF ANYTHING WAS GOING ON. [redacted] TOLD [redacted] IT WAS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT THE COMMUNISTS IN CALIFORNIA WERE SUPPORTING THE FREEDOM RIDERS. TOLD [redacted] "EVERYONE KNOWS" COMMUNISTS ARE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE ALONG PICO BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, AMONG UNEMPLOYED LABORERS. [redacted] SUGGESTED POSSIBLY CALIFORNIA NEGROES WERE BEING FINANCED BY COMMUNISTS IN CALIFORNIA TO HELP FREEDOM RIDERS IN SOUTH. DETAILED QUESTIONING OF [redacted] BY BUAGENTS FAILED TO DEVELOPE ANY INFORMATION BEYOND THE GENERAL, "COMMON KNOWLEDGE" "EVERYONE KNOWS" PHRASES. [redacted] HAS BEEN EMPLOYED [redacted]

END PAGE ONE

157-307-67

~~145-307~~

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EX. 108 REC. 64

12 JUN 7 1961

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60 JUN 14

JUL 21 1961

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PAGE TWO

[redacted] HAS NO CONNECTION WITH CP IN CALIFORNIA AND APPEARED TO HAVE NO INFORMATION WHATEVER ABOUT IT EXCEPT THE "COMMON KNOWLEDGE" VARIETY MENTIONED ABOVE. HE APPEARED TO BE SINCERELY DESIROUS OF BEING HELPFUL. [redacted] NEGATIVE OUR INDICES, HAS CONTINUED ON TO MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA, FOR A VACATION. [redacted] INTERVIEWED AT LENGTH BY BUAGENTS. HIS FINAL VERSION WAS ALMOST SAME AS [redacted] TO AGENTS. [redacted] BROUGHT UP COLORED PEOPLE, FREEDOM RIDERS AND TROUBLE IN THE SOUTH. [redacted] SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY COLORED PEOPLE GOING EAST, OBSERVED BY [redacted] MIGHT BE GOING SOUTH TO AGITATE AT THE INSTIGATION OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNISTS. [redacted] SAID [redacted] GAVE HIM NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION. [redacted] HOWEVER INSISTED THAT THE VERSION OF THIRTY FIVE LATE MODEL, MIDDLE PRICED CARS EACH WITH SIX TO EIGHT COLORED MEN IN IT PASSING THROUGH TORNILLO ON HIGHWAY EIGHTY GOING EAST BETWEEN APPROXIMATELY SEVEN AND EIGHT FIFTEEN P.M. SIX THREE SIXTYONE WAS TRUE. VERY SERIOUS DOUBT THROWN ON THIS INFORMATION BY FACT THAT DISCREET SURVEILLANCE OF HIGHWAY EIGHTY EAST THROUGH MIDLAND, TEXAS, P.D. /HAROLD WALLACE NA CHIEF/ BETWEEN ONE FIFTEEN AND FIVE A.M. SIX FOUR SIXTY ONE FAILED TO DEVELOP

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ANY INFORMATION ABOUT ANY CARLOADS OF COLORED PEOPLE GOING EAST, ANY UNUSUAL TRAFFIC PATTERNS, ANY UNUSUAL NUMBER OF CARS WITH CALIFORNIA PLATES, ANY CARS APPEARING TO TRAVEL IN CARAVAN OR ANY DEPARTURE FROM ROUTINE, NORMAL TRAFFIC FOR SATURDAY NIGHT. UACB NO FURTHER INQUIRY WILL BE MADE INTO THIS MATTER AND NO REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED.

END AND ACK PLS

1-02 PM OK FBI WA RAM

TU DISC P

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
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Evans
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Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 5, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/7/00 BY SP4 Byrd tcg #238602

SYNOPSIS

[redacted] male who was arrested at Selma, Alabama, 6/2/61 while traveling with freedom riders from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi, reportedly states he was not a freedom rider but merely an observer.

[redacted] was arrested for assault and disturbing the peace after he allegedly made two attempts to sit on a seat where an elderly white woman had her leg and he sat on the woman's leg.

Upon release from jail, [redacted] told Associated Press the sheriff had arranged to have him beaten. No complaint has been received and the sheriff states when he saw [redacted] at breakfast 6/3/61 [redacted] made no complaint and showed no signs of the beating.

The press quotes freedom ride leaders as stating freedom rides will continue but will bypass Alabama where a temporary injunction was entered against freedom rides on 6/2/61 and there will be "fly-ins" into Jackson, Mississippi, within the next week.

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth received additional sentences at Birmingham, 6/2/61, of $200 plus costs and 360 days in jail for allegedly interfering with police when freedom riders were taken into protective custody 5/17/61. These sentences being appealed.

Shuttlesworth also sentenced to 24 hours in jail and fined $10, 6/2/61, for contempt in that he refused to answer when questioned as to whether he intended to continue to violate city ordinances. Jail sentence served. Shuttlesworth also placed under $5,000 peace bond.

[redacted] co-counsel for defense at first trial of freedom riders in Jackson, has written Jackson City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge and Chief of Detectives thanking them for their courtesy.

REC-22 157-387-18

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

EX-108

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Cma/JS 4/10/79

JUN 7 1961

57 JUN 14 1961

WLM:jam
(9)

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: FREEBUS

Six Negroes arrested at municipal zoo, Jackson, Mississippi, 6/4/61 when they refused to move from benches customarily used by white people. Released without charges after questioning at police station. They allegedly acted under direction of Medgar Evers, Field Secretary, NAACP.

Six or eight Negro students left Tallahassee, Florida, by Greyhound Bus 6/2/61 after one of them entered the white waiting room without incident. At Jacksonville, they entered the white restaurant at the bus terminal and were served without incident.

Sit-ins occurred at five lunch counters in Macon, Georgia, 6/2/61. The only incident was when a 17-year-old Negro boy was struck by a 67-year-old white man whom he sat beside. Both arrested for disorderly conduct.

Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights is sponsoring a Freedom Riders Rally in Chicago, 6/5/61. Richard Criley, Executive Secretary, is allegedly a member of the Communist Party.

A students ad hoc committee reportedly will demonstrate on behalf of the freedom riders in Chicago on the evening of 6/5/61.

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A confidential informant states he has learned that [redacted] the Dixie Klans, plan to bomb TENN. or burn apartments occupied by Negroes at Cherry and Fourth Streets, Chattanooga. This allegedly will occur some night during the coming week. Chattanooga police have been advised.

Report that 35 cars bearing California Negroes had passed through El Paso, Texas, 6/3/61, en route to Alabama appears to be false.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the information of the Attorney General.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

DETAILS

Sheriff James G. Clark of Selma, Alabama, has furnished the following additional details regarding [redacted] male who was arrested at Selma on 6/2/61 while traveling on a bus with freedom riders who were going from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi.

Previous information indicated that [redacted] was a freedom rider; however, he has denied this to the Sheriff's Office and has stated that he was merely an observer.

[redacted] was arrested upon the complaint of Mrs. J. C. Thomas, Luverne, Alabama, an elderly white woman who found it necessary to ride with one leg on the seat. [redacted] allegedly tried to take this seat on two occasions and, in so doing, he sat on Mrs. Thomas' leg. [redacted] was arrested for assault and disturbing the peace.

[redacted] was confined in the county jail in lieu of $1,500 bond and was subsequently released. [redacted] has told an Associated Press representative that while he was in jail the sheriff arranged to have him beaten. [redacted] has not made this allegation to the FBI nor is he known to have made such an allegation to anyone other than the newspaperman. Sheriff Clark has stated that he saw [redacted] at breakfast on 6/3/61 at which time [redacted] made no complaint and did not show any marks of a beating.

Reverend Martin Luther King and [redacted] have been quoted in the press as indicating that freedom rides will continue into Mississippi but will bypass Alabama in accordance with the temporary injunction issued 6/2/61 by United States District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., at Montgomery.

Martin Luther King is quoted in the press as having stated, "I think we have revealed through many experiences that we have no fear of going to jail and staying in jail when necessary. We have transformed jails and prisons from dungeons of shame to havens of freedom and justice."

The press has also quoted [redacted] organizer for the Congress of Racial Equality to the effect that freedom rides will continue on the highways, on trains and there will also be "fly-ins" into Jackson, Mississippi, within the next week.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth appeared in Birmingham Recorder's Court on the night of 6/2/61 in connection with his activities at the Greyhound Bus station in Birmingham on 5/17/61 when a group of freedom riders was taken into protective custody by the Birmingham Police Department. Shuttlesworth was fined $200 plus costs and sentenced to serve 360 days in jail on charges of "refusing to obey the lawful command of a police officer" and "interfering with an officer in line of duty."

Shuttlesworth was convicted after Birmingham Police Chief Jamie Moore testified that Shuttlesworth had interfered with the process of placing freedom riders into the patrol wagons on 5/17/61. Following testimony for the prosecution, Shuttlesworth was ordered by Judge William Conway to take the stand and to testify as to the conduct that may be expected of him in the future. The judge specifically inquired as to whether Shuttlesworth intended to continue to violate city ordinances. Shuttlesworth declined to answer and invoked the Fifth Amendment. The judge ruled that the Fifth Amendment is not applicable in City Recorder's Court and thereupon held Shuttlesworth in contempt, sentencing him to spend 24 hours in jail and fining him $10. Shuttlesworth was also placed under a $5,000 peace bond under the provisions of Section 1088, General City Code. This code section states in effect that upon conviction, if there is reason to believe that the individual intends to commit breach of the peace, he may be required to post a bond to insure that he will keep the peace for a period of up to 12 months.

Shuttlesworth served the 24 hour sentence for contempt but is appealing the sentences he received in connection with the substantive charges.

J. A. Travis, City Attorney, Jackson, Mississippi, has received a letter directed to him, Municipal Court Judge James L. Spencer and Chief of Detectives M. B. Pierce by [redacted] who was co-counsel for the defense at the first trial of freedom riders in Jackson, Mississippi. This letter states in part:

> "I wish you to know that it has been a pleasure for me to honestly state that I know of no instance where defense lawyers have been treated in nicer. It is always a pleasant experience to work with or oppose men who uphold the high principles of our profession.

"Thank you for your courtesies shown while in your city and if our office can ever be of assistance to you in this area, we will be only too happy to oblige."

On 6/4/61, six Negroes were arrested at the municipal zoo in Jackson, Mississippi, when they failed to obey the orders of a police officer to move on. They were sitting on benches in the vicinity of a concession stand which are not designated for either race but which Negroes do not customarily use. All were released without charges, being filed after they were questioned at police headquarters. The Jackson police have advised that the group had acted under the direction of Medgar Evers, Field Secretary of the NAACP.

The Tallahassee, Florida, police have advised that on the evening of 6/2/61 six or eight Negro students from Florida A and M College entered the Greyhound Bus depot at Tallahassee to return to their homes upon the end of the school year. After purchasing their tickets, all but one of the group sat in the Negro waiting room. One Negro sat in the white waiting room. He was approached by an unidentified white man who apparently told him he was sitting in the white section. The Negro appeared surprised but did not move. Shortly thereafter, the group departed for Jacksonville without incident. Upon arrival in Jacksonville, the group of Negroes from Tallahassee entered the white restaurant in the Greyhound Bus terminal and were served without incident. The Jacksonville police reportedly interviewed the Negroes and were told that they were complying with a request of the NAACP that students returning to their homes from college should test segregated facilities.

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Information has been received that on 6/2/61 five groups of Negroes, who appeared to be students, attempted to integrate white lunch counters at five stores in downtown Macon, Georgia. The students reportedly departed peaceably after they were refused service and the lunch counters were closed. The only incident occurred when [redacted] a 17-year-old Negro boy, sat at a lunch counter beside Floyd Prince, a 67-year-old white man. Prince struck [redacted] about the head and they both departed. They were both subsequently arrested by the Macon police and were charged with disorderly conduct.

B. APPROX. 1947

6A.

B. APPROX. 1894

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

A confidential source in Chicago has advised that the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights is sponsoring a Freedom Riders Rally to be held 6/5/61. Richard Criley, Executive Secretary, was reportedly sending announcements to 3,500 individuals, inviting them to attend and hear talks by some of the freedom riders as well as a discussion of future plans to extend freedom south of the "Magnolia Curtain." Richard Criley is reportedly a member of the Communist Party of Illinois.

Another source has advised the Chicago Office that the above rally is sponsored by the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights and various other antidiscrimination organizations, including the Committee on Racial Equality. This source also advised that a students ad hoc committee will demonstrate on behalf of the freedom riders in Chicago on the evening of 6/5/61. This committee allegedly is composed of students from the University of Chicago and Roosevelt University in Chicago. This latter source also related that the Fair Play For Cuba Committee is supporting the rally and that Richard Criley provided 500 leaflets to be mailed to individuals on the Fair Play For Cuba Committee mailing list.

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Confidential informant [redacted] informed the Atlanta Office on 6/4/61 that he was returning to Miami from Chattanooga. The informant said he learned on [redacted] that [redacted] of the Dixie Klans, plan to bomb or burn apartments occupied by Negroes at Cherry and Fourth Streets, Chattanooga. This was to take place some night during the coming week. The Chattanooga police have been advised.

On 6/4/61 [redacted] advised that on the evening of 6/3/61 he had been told by [redacted] that communist agitators in Los Angeles had organized a large group of Negroes who were driving from Los Angeles to Alabama as freedom riders. [redacted] claimed that during the next hour and a half he observed 35 cars, each carrying five to seven passengers and each bearing a California license, proceeding east on Highway 80. Highway 80 is one of the main routes from Los Angeles to the southeastern states.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

[redacted] who was driving with his family to Louisiana on his vacation, has been interviewed. He stated that he approached [redacted] volunteered the information that he had seen several cars carrying Negroes driving east and wondered if anything was going on. [redacted] told [redacted] that "everyone" knows that communists are acting upon the unemployed in Los Angeles and suggested the possibility that California Negroes were being financed by communists to engage in freedom rides to the South. [redacted] had no information indicating that such might be the fact.

[redacted] was recontacted and substantially verified [redacted] version of their conversation but still insisted that he had seen 35 cars driving east on Highway 80, each bearing California license plates and carrying several Negro men. This information appears very doubtful as Harold Wallace, National Academy graduate, Chief of Police in Midland, Texas, caused Highway 80 to be discreetly surveilled and no such caravan was observed. It is noted that Midland, Texas, is situated on Highway 80 approximately 280 miles east of El Paso.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : **Mr. Rosen**

DATE: **6-5-61**

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: **FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.**

SA [redacted] at the Jackson, Mississippi, Resident Agency, advised on 6-5-61 that information had been received a Trailways bus with eight freedom riders would leave New Orleans, Louisiana, to arrive at Jackson, Mississippi, 11:30 a.m. (Jackson time) 6-6-61. He said further information would be furnished when it was obtained.

JAC:vjh
(5)

NOT RECORDED

157-387-19

9 JUN 8 1961

REC-10

50 JUN 16 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6-5-61

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: PROPOSED TRAVEL BY BUS OF GROUP OF VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

0 FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

The Washington Daily News of June 5, 1961, contained an item indicating that a group of Negro students at Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia, plan to begin a freedom ride on the evening of June 5 to Jackson, Mississippi, with scheduled stops at Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, despite a Federal restraining order prohibiting "freedom rides."

SAC Earl Brown of the Richmond Office was contacted in connection with this item and instructed to conduct appropriate inquiry. Richmond had previously received information that a group of five students from Virginia Union University plan to depart Richmond at 7:30 p.m., June 5, enroute to Atlanta, Georgia. The group ultimately planned to continue on to Jackson, Mississippi, but its specific program for doing so was not known and was to be discussed and coordinated with [redacted] of the Student Non-Violent Committee in Atlanta.

SAC Brown subsequently advised that the Richmond Office had contacted [redacted] Virginia Union University [redacted] of freedom riders planning to go to Jackson, Mississippi.

[redacted] advised that he knew of no plans by his group or any other at the University to make stops at Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in connection with travel to Jackson, Mississippi. He stated that [redacted] plans to leave Richmond tonight at approximately 7:30 p.m. by Trailways bus enroute to Atlanta, Georgia, [redacted] scheduled to arrive at 11:00 a.m., June 6, 1961. Eventually [redacted] to go on to Jackson, Mississippi, but at this time he does not know the time or date [redacted] travel. He stated that as he had previously advised, these details will be worked out with [redacted] at Atlanta, Georgia.

JGK:vjh
(5)

EX-108

157-387-20

REC-22

9 JUN 8 1961

57 JUN 12 1961

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Memorandum to Mr. Rosen

[redacted] added that [redacted] plan to leave Richmond tonight by a Trailways bus for Nashville, Tennessee. They plan to leave at approximately midnight and according to [redacted] although they eventually plan to go on to Jackson, their plans are not yet crystalized and the date and time of their departure and the route by which they will travel is not known at this time.

[redacted] could not explain why the [redacted] members of [redacted] group were not [redacted] to Atlanta but were proceeding independently to Nashville, Tennessee, other than to say that their proposed activity was not "organized" and as yet no firm plans have been established. *

SAC Brown was instructed to notify pertinent offices including Birmingham, Memphis, Mobile and Atlanta of the results of [redacted] interview and to verify the actual departure of [redacted] members of his group from Richmond, Virginia. He was also instructed to verify the mode of travel taken by these individuals.

SAC Brown was further instructed to keep the Bureau and all interested offices advised of pertinent developments.

* [redacted] stated that he had not been contacted by any members of the press nor had he made any announcement to the press regarding plans [redacted] University planning to travel to Jackson, Mississippi.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 9 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISS.

URGENT 6-8-61 7-23 PM CST SDF

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 2P

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FREEBUS. RE PHONE CALL JACKSON RA TO BUREAU TODAY. FOLLOWING FREE RIDERS CONVICTED JACKSON MUNICIPAL COURT, JACKSON, MISS., JUNE EIGHT FOR VIOLATION S. TWO ZERO EIGHT SEVEN POINT FIVE, MISS. CODE. ALL FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS SENTENCED TO FOUR MONTHS, OF WHICH SIXTY DAYS SUSPENDED. NO INCIDENTS DURING TRIAL. FROM TRAILWAYS FREE RIDE JUNE SEVEN ARE - [redacted]

FROM DELTA AIRLINES FREE RIDE JUNE SEVEN ARE - [redacted]

FROM ICRR FREE RIDE JUNE EIGHT ARRE - [redacted]

STOKLEY CARMICHAEL. ALSO [redacted]

JUN 12 1961

CONVICTED WERE [redacted] WHO WERE ARRESTED [redacted]

JACKSON AIRPORT, JUNE EIGHT. ALSO CONVICTED WAS [redacted]

END PAGE ONE

63 JUN 15 1961

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PAGE TWO

[redacted] FREE RIDER ARRESTED GREYHOUND BUS TERMINAL, JACKSON, JUNE SEVEN. [redacted] CONVICTED OVER VIOLATION S. TWO ZERO EIGHT NINE POINT FIVE, MISS. CODE, BUT RECEIVED SAME FINE AND SENTENCE AS ABOVE. TOTAL ARRESTED AS OF FIVE PM, JUNE EIGHT, NINETY THREE. OUT ON BOND SEVENTEEN. PAID FINES TWO. NET IN CUSTODY SEVENTYFOUR. ALL RIDERS EATING AT COUNTY JAIL. FIVE REFUSING TO EAT AT CITY JAIL.

END AND ACK PLS

9-27 PM OK FBI WA WS

TU DISC

June 6, 1961

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

TO SACS ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE
NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK AND NEWARK

b6
b7C

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTYONE, RACIAL MATTERS, CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CIVIL RIGHTS. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM [redacted] NEW YORK CITY, MEMBER OF NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE, STATING HE AND [redacted] MEMBER OF NEW YORK BAR AND WHO MAY POSSIBLY BE [redacted] OF NEW YORK CHAPTER OF NAACP, PLAN TO LEAVE NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, BY PLANE SIX PM TONIGHT EN ROUTE TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AND JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. [redacted] STATES HE VIEWS WITH ALARM UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK BY ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITIES AND THAT HE AND [redacted] ARE GOING TO ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION AND GIVE LEGAL COUNSEL TO INDIVIDUALS UNLAWFULLY DETAINED BY STATE AUTHORITIES. [redacted] SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE ATLANTA,

EX-108 REC-50 157-387-22

See note on page 3.

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

JGK:ers
(3)

50 JUN 14 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

19 JUN 7 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

TELETYPE TO SACS, AT, BH, MO, NO, NY, & NK

b6
b7C

GEORGIA, SEVEN FORTY-THREE PM/ TONIGHT THEREAFTER, THEY WILL PROCEED BY BUS TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, AND ON THE FORENOON OF JUNE SEVENTH PLAN TO PROCEED TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. ACCORDING TO [redacted] PLAN TO USE QUOTE ALL FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO PERSONS TRAVELING WITHIN THE U. S. UNQUOTE. NEW YORK SHOULD OBTAIN APPROPRIATE BACKGROUND DATA RE [redacted] AND FURNISH SAME TOGETHER WITH PERTINENT DATA NEW YORK FILES TO BUREAU AND INTERSTED OFFICES, BY TELETYPE. NEWARK VERIFY DEPARTURE OF [redacted] AND ADVISE BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES. ATLANTA, MOBILE, BIRMINGHAM AND NEW ORLEANS IMMEDIATELY ALERT APPROPRIATE LOCAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES TO PROPOSED TRAVEL OF [redacted] [redacted] ALERT APPROPRIATE INFORMANTS AND KEEP BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES ADVISED OF ALL PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS. ATTENTION MOBILE AND BIRMINGHAM DIRECTED TO FACT THAT TRAVEL BY [redacted] IN ALABAMA MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER ISSUED BY USDJ FRANK M. JOHNSON, JR. ON JUNE SECOND LAST.

FEDERAL [illegible]ON
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
3-21 PM
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

NOTE: Above information was telephonically furnished by [redacted] Civil Rights Division of Department, on 6/6/61. [redacted] stated that the purpose of [redacted] telegram to the Department was to advise the Attorney General of proposed action and to call upon the Attorney General to insure that [redacted] are protected during their travel. He requested that the Department be advised of any pertinent developments in the matter.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
3:21 PM TELETYPE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-6-61 3-21 PM RAM

TO SACS ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK, AND NEWARK

FROM DIRECTOR 2P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTYONE, RACIAL MATTERS, CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CIVIL RIGHTS. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM [redacted] NEW YORK CITY, MEMBER OF NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE, STATING HE AND [redacted] MEMBER OF NEW YORK BAR AND WHO MAY POSSIBLY BE [redacted] OF NEW YORK CHAPTER OF NAACP, PLAN TO LEAVE NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, BY PLANE SIX PM TONIGHT EN ROUTE TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AND JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. [redacted] STATES HE VIEWS WITH ALARM UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH RESIDENTS OF NEW YORK BY ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI AUTHORITIES AND THAT HE AND [redacted] ARE GOING TO ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION AND GIVE LEGAL COUNSEL TO INDIVIDUALS UNLAWFULLY DETAINED BY STATE AUTHORITIES. [redacted] SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE ATLANTA, GEORGIA, SEVEN FORTY-THREE PM. TONIGHT. THEREAFTER, THEY WILL PROCEED BY BUS TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, AND ON THE FORENOON

END PAGE ONE

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO

OF JUNE SEVENTH PLAN TO PROCEED TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

ACCORDING TO [redacted] PLAN TO USE QUOTE ALL

FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO PERSONS TRAVELING WITHIN THE U. S.

UNQUOTE. NEW YORK SHOULD OBTAIN APPROPRIATE BACKGROUND

DATA RE [redacted] AND FURNISH SAME TOGETHER WITH

PERTINENT DATA NEW YORK FILES TO BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES,

BY TELETYPE. NEWARK VERIFY DEPARTURE OF [redacted] AND

ADVISE BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICE. ATLANTA, MOBILE,

BIRMINGHAM AND NEW ORLEANS IMMEDIATELY ALERT APPROPRIATE

LOCAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES TO PROPOSED TRAVEL OF [redacted]

[redacted] ALERT APPROPRIATE INFORMANTS AND KEEP BUREAU AND

INTERESTED OFFICES ADVISED OF ALL PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

ATTENTION MOBILE AND BIRMINGHAM DIRECTED TO FACT THAT TRAVEL

BY [redacted] IN ALABAMA MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF COURT

ORDER ISSUED BY USDJ FRANK M. JOHNSON, JR. ON JUNE SECOND LAST.

END ACK PLS

AT OK FBI AT WJB

BH OK FBI BHGDM

MO OK FBI MO HRT

NO OK FBI NO MBK

U TU DISC

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 8, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6-9-80 BY SP4 bjtlg #428602

The New Orleans Office has reported nine individuals were arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, this morning when a mixed group of Negroes and whites entered the white waiting room at the railroad station. One of the persons arrested claims to be employed as

Nine individuals, males, female, and females, arrived in Jackson, Mississippi, from New Orleans on the Illinois Central Train "City of New Orleans."

These individuals entered the white waiting room and were arrested by the Jackson Police after they refused to move. One of the individuals arrested has identified herself as Northwest, Washington, D. C. This individual is described as female, years of age and claims to be employed as

The New Orleans Office has further advised that one was arrested at the bus station at Jackson on the night of 6/7/61. entered the Negro cafe and refused to move on when requested by the police.

The father has been in contact with the Jackson Police and wants to have his son released and has been very upset over the son's behavior. New Orleans has advised that will not be tried under the same statute used against the other freedom riders since he was not in a group. He will be tried under a general breach of the peace statute which provides for a fine of $500 and/or 6 months in jail.

ACTION

EX 101

REC-36 157-387-23

The telephone directory lists one

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach

CLM:ers
(8)

25 JUN 12 1961

50 JUN 16 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sizoo
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

b6
b7C

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: May 31, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/88 BY S.P. Hyatt
428602

SYNOPSIS

Twenty-two freedom riders transferred to Hinds County Penal Farm, 5/29/61, from county jail at Jackson, Mississippi.

While being booked at Penal Farm, [redacted] allegedly struck for refusing to answer "Yes sir" or "No sir."

Upon hearing of above incidents, Governor Ross Barnett met with the sheriff and County Board of Supervisors. Max Thomas, Superintendent of the Penal Farm who was involved in both incidents, was immediately suspended pending an investigation and the freedom riders were returned to the county jail.

[redacted] were interviewed by Bureau Agents and above information was discussed with AAG Burke Marshall 5/30/61. No further investigation being conducted unless requested by Department.

Eight additional freedom riders arrived at Jackson 5/30/61 by train from New Orleans. Arrested upon entering white waiting room and convicted same day for breach of the peace.

Fifty-two freedom riders have been arrested at Jackson since 5/24/61. Eight have been released on bond and 44 remain in custody.

National States Rights Party held meeting near Montgomery 5/29/61. Jesse B. Stoner delivered usual hysterical tirade against Director, President, AG and others. Crowd was not impressed.

During the NSRP meeting, the Director, Senator Hill, Senator Sparkman and Martin Luther King were hanged in effigy.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

See Pages 5 & 6

XEROX JUN 12 1961

JUN 15 1961

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 157-3723-1

157-38?-24

REC-24

JUN 8 1961

EX-101

They are to understand DeLoach does not want any investigation of this incident.

b6
b7C
b7D

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons
RE: FREEBUS

[redacted]

The White House was picketed 5/30/61 by 145 individuals from Philadelphia and New York who carried placards supporting freedom riders. Participating organizations included "Progressive Youth Organizing Committee" and "Advance," both of which have Communist Party connections.

[redacted] previously arrested by FBI in connection with [redacted] were bound over for Grand Jury action in a preliminary hearing [redacted] who made bond for [redacted] of the four subjects arrested by the FBI. informed the U. S. Commissioner that [redacted] is subject to [redacted] of approximately [redacted] Facts are being discussed with United States Attorney relative to possible prosecution as a Fraud Against the Government.

[redacted] cited for contempt when he invoked the Fifth Amendment at the injunction hearing, Montgomery, Alabama, 5/30/61.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the information of the Attorney General.

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

DETAILS

On 5/29/61, 22 of the freedom riders who were incarcerated at Jackson, Mississippi, were moved from the county jail to the Hinds County Penal Farm at Raymond, Mississippi. [redacted] alleged that during the booking procedure at the Penal Farm they were mistreated for failing to answer questions "Yes sir" or "No sir."

[redacted] furnished a signed statement to Bureau Agents in which [redacted] alleged that Max Thomas, Superintendent of the Penal Farm, slapped [redacted] on the face twice when [redacted] responded to questions by stating "Uh huh" or by grunting to indicate a negative answer. [redacted] did not require medical attention.

[redacted] was interviewed by Bureau Agents and submitted a signed statement to the effect that [redacted] unintentionally failed to add "sir" when responding "Yes" or "No" to the questions. On one occasion, [redacted] replied "Uh huh." [redacted] alleges that an unknown subject [redacted] believed to be a guard hit [redacted] on the head with a stick several times. Max Thomas swung at [redacted] with his fist but [redacted] blocked the blows. Thomas shoved [redacted] and a third subject, apparently a guard, allegedly struck [redacted] with a blackjack. [redacted] suffered a one inch cut on [redacted] forehead which bled profusely and a smaller laceration on the top of [redacted] head. Max Thomas furnished first aid treatment by applying a gauze compress and a doctor dressed the wound an hour later. [redacted] required no further medical treatment.

Upon hearing of the above incidents, Governor Ross Barnett met in his office with Sheriff Gilfoy of Hinds County and the Hinds County Board of Supervisors. As a result of this meeting, Max Thomas was immediately suspended pending a thorough investigation by the Sheriff.

After the above incidents, Sheriff Gilfoy returned the freedom riders from the Penal Farm to the county jail to prevent any future incident. The Mayor of Jackson, in a meeting with police officials, stated that if the county jail should become filled the city jail will be available for the housing of freedom riders.

The above information was discussed with Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall on 5/30/61 and it was Mr. Marshall's desire that no further investigation be conducted in the absence of contrary instructions from the Department.

At 10:12 a.m., Central Standard Time, 5/30/61, a group of eight freedom riders, consisting of one Negro male, two Negro females and five white males, arrived in Jackson, Mississippi, from New Orleans by train. There were no unusual crowds at the station and 12 uniformed policemen were in the area. The group entered the white waiting room and were arrested for breach of the peace when they refused to obey police orders that they move on.

The above eight freedom riders were convicted in Municipal Court, Jackson, Mississippi, on 5/30/61, of breach of the peace under Section 2087.5 of the Mississippi Code. All were sentenced to 60 days in jail and were fined $200 with the jail sentence suspended. They remain in jail in default of the fine.

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

Up to the present time, 52 freedom riders have been arrested at Jackson since the first group arrived on 5/24/61. Of those arrested, nine are white males, 32 are Negro males and 11 are Negro females. No white females have been arrested. Eight of those arrested have been released on bond, including one white male, four Negro males and three Negro females. A total of 44 remain in custody of which 10 are in the city jail and 34 are in the county jail.

On the evening of 5/29/61, the National States Rights Party (NSRP) held a "White Youth for Segregation" meeting at Prattmont which is on the outskirts of Montgomery, Alabama.

Approximately 400 people attended the NSRP meeting. Jesse B. Stoner, legal counsel for NSRP, was the principal speaker and talked for about one hour. Stoner's talk was in complete character with his previous irresponsible and venomous rantings. He followed the language used in "The Thunderbolt," the NSRP publication, and was speaking for the benefit of his small following of white trash. Stoner's platform conduct again raises the question as to whether he is mentally sound. It is noted that Stoner, on one occasion, when registering a complaint with our Knoxville Office, was highly abusive of the FBI and became incoherent.

In his tirade, Stoner made reference to various public figures, including the Director, the President, the Attorney General, Senator Lister Hill (D Alabama), Senator John J. Sparkman (D Alabama) and Martin Luther King. Stoner villified all of these men as enemies of the white race. The crowd gave a slight applause when each of the above men was mentioned with the exception of the Director. There was complete silence when the Director was mentioned by Stoner.

During the meeting there were several large bonfires and the Director, as well as Senator Hill, Senator Sparkman and Martin Luther King, was hanged in effigy.

The crowd was not impressed by Stoner's speech and an informant remarked that if the people had come to be inflamed they were disappointed. He described it as a boring meeting and said that the crowd seemed to cool off as the meeting progressed. b6 b7C b7D

Montgomery, Alabama, newspapers reported the meeting in a short article. Martin Luther King was the only one mentioned by the press as having been hanged in effigy.

[redacted] United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc. (UK), met [redacted] with Alvin Horn, Grand Dragon, of Clanton Klavern, UK. [redacted]

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

The White House was picketed for several hours on the afternoon of 5/30/61 by a group which came by bus from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and New York City. There were approximately 145 participants who carried placards bearing slogans in support of the "freedom riders." There were no incidents. This group was allegedly sponsored by the "Washington Freedom Riders Committee," 303 West 125th Street, New York, New York. Flyers issued listed among the participants the following organizations which are known to have Marxist ideologies and Communist Party connections: the "Progressive Youth Organizing Committee" and the "Advance." Both are currently under investigation.

With respect to the burning of the Greyhound Bus at Anniston, Alabama, on 5/14/61, a preliminary hearing was held in that city at 10:00 a.m., 5/29/61, at the request of [redacted] When the hearing concluded, the U. S. Commissioner ordered [redacted] bound over for grand jury and bond was fixed at [redacted] was remanded to the custody of the U. S. Marshal on failure to make bond. The two other subjects who were arrested in connection with this incident previously waived preliminary hearing.

It is noted that bond on subject [redacted] one of the four subjects arrested by Bureau Agents, was made by [redacted] at Anniston, Alabama. In connection with making bond for [redacted] claimed a net worth of [redacted] and verbally stated to the U. S. Commissioner that [redacted] free of indebtedness. Inquiry disclosed [redacted] in the amount of approximately [redacted] and the facts are being presented to the U. S. Attorney in Birmingham relative to a possible Fraud Against the Government violation. The U. S. Attorney has previously indicated he would authorize prosecution if the [redacted]

Concerning the hearing at Montgomery for a preliminary injunction against various Klan groups, police officials and named defendants, a number of additional witnesses were heard on 5/30/61. Among these were reporters from various newspapers who testified concerning the violence in Birmingham and Anniston. SAC Jenkins of the Birmingham Office testified as to his

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

notification of police regarding the possibility of violence being perpetrated against the freedom riders. [redacted], a subject in the burning of the Greyhound Bus, refused to testify on the basis of the Fifth Amendment. He was then held in contempt of court and released on his own recognizance. AIA.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STA[illegible]

Mem[illegible]

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 5/26/61

b6
b7C
b7D

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Mr. John Murphy, Civil Rights Division of the Department, called and advised that he had just received a long distance call from [redacted] Mississippi, telephone number [redacted] informed him that he was at the Trailways bus terminal on Wednesday, May 24, 1961, when the first bus load of freedom riders arrived at the bus terminal and he was an eyewitness to the events which followed in the terminal.

Mr. Murphy stated that he would like the Bureau to interview [redacted] as soon as possible.

Mr. Murphy advised that [redacted] is employed at the [redacted] Mississippi, telephone number [redacted] He stated that he also may be contacted this afternoon at [redacted] in Jackson where he is [redacted]

Mr. Murphy stated that he will confirm his request by memorandum.

ACTION:

ASAC Sylvester at Jackson, Mississippi, was instructed to have the requested interview conducted and to promptly advise the Bureau of the results.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

JCT:dsj
(9)

EX-108

REC-80 157-387-25

25 JUN 5 1961

63 JUN 14 1961

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

REC'D - CIV RIGHTS
FBI
JUN 7 12 10 PM '61

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 27 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 5-27-61 9-53 PM CST LM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS /157-264/ 1P

FREEBUS. RE PHONE CALL TO BUREAU FROM JACKSON THIS DATE.

FREEDOM RIDERS [redacted] ALL COLORED, RELEASED ON BOND AND RETURNED TO NEW ORLEANS VIA DELTA AIRLINES, ARRIVING NINE NAUGHT THREE PM. MET BY LARGE CONTINGENT OF NEWSMEN. AFTER INTERVIEWS DEPARTED IN AIRPORT LIMOUSINE WITHOUT INCIDENT.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 11-54 PM OK FBI WA ELR

RTC-80 157-387-26

JUN 9 1961

68 JUN 14 1961

EX-102

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 5/28/61

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE - JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MAY 27-28, 1961
CIVIL RIGHTS

b6
b7C

FREEDOM RIDE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA - JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MAY 28, 1961
CIVIL RIGHTS

The following Bureau officials were orally furnished a summary of current developments in connection with the freedom riders at the times indicated:

Mr. Parsons - 10:33 a.m., 5/28/61
Mr. C. A. Evans - 10:38 a.m., 5/28/61

With reference to the group of nine Negro students who were arrested by the Jackson Police Department this morning at 5: 30 a.m., CST, (7:30 a.m. Washington time), they were advised that court will not be in session today and the students have been scheduled for trial at 4:00 p.m., 5/29/61. All of the students may post $500 appearance bond but there is no indication that any will try to do so.

They were further advised that another group of freedom riders consisting of two whites and six Negroes departed from Montgomery, Alabama, at 7:22 a.m., CST, (9:22 a.m. Washington time) this morning en route to Jackson, Mississippi. This group is scheduled to arrive in Jackson at 1:15 p.m., CST, (3:15 p.m. Washington time). According to information received from a member of the Freedom Riders Committee in Montgomery, this group of freedom riders does not plan to test facilities at interim stops between Montgomery and Jackson, but will definitely test such facilities upon their arrival in Jackson.

They were further advised that the Jackson Police Department has stated that if freedom riders violate state laws, they will be arrested.

JGK:dsj
(3)

EX-116

157-387-27

REC-9

12 JUN 1 1961

59 JUN 14 1961

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 28 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 5-28-61 1-02PM JB

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S NEW ORLEANS ANS MOBILE

FROM SAC, MEMPHIS /157-140/ 2P

FREEBUS. RE MEMPHIS TELETYPE MAY TWENTYSEVEN LAST ADVISING TEN NEGRO STUDENTS LEFT NASHVILLE, TENN., FIVE FIFTEEN, MAY TWENTYSEVEN, ENROUTE JACKSON, MISS. TO JOIN FREEDOM RIDER GROUP IN JACKSON. ACCORDING TO INFO RELEASED TO PRESS IN NASHVILLE BY SPOKEMAN FOR FREEDOM RIDERS, NINE RIDERS BOARDED GREYHOUND BUS, FIVE FIFTEEN, MAY TWENTY SEVEN, ENROUTE JACKSON VIA MEMPHIS, TENN. RIDERS IDENTIFIED AS [redacted] OKLAHOMA CITY., [redacted] NASHVILLE., [redacted] MASON, TENN., [redacted] CHATTANOOGA, TENN., [redacted] NASHVILLE., [redacted] BOLIVAR, TENN., [redacted] BIRMINGHAM., [redacted] CINCINNATI, OHIO., [redacted] PIEDMONT., STATE NOT GIVEN. GROUP ARRIVED MEMPHIS APPROXIMATELY TEN FORTY FIVE PM. MAY TWENTY SEVEN AND DUE TO PREVIOUS PUBLICITY UPON ARRIVAL WERE PHOTOGRAPHED BY LOCAL PRESS AND TV REPRESENTATIVES. SEVERAL THEREAFTER USED WHITE RESTROOMS AND WHITE RESTAURANT WITHOUT INCIDENT. NO DISTURBANCE WHATSOEVER AND NO UNUNUAL GATHERING OF PEOPLE.

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b7C

EX-108 REC-80 157-387-28
17 JUN 1 1961

58 JUN 13 1961

PAGE TWO.

SEVERAL THEREAFTER SAT DOWN IN WHITE WAITING ROOM. GREYHOUND BUS NO. FOUR FOUR FIVE ZERO DEPARTS MEMPHIS ONE FIFTEEN AM, MAY TWENTY EIGHT INSTANT AND GOES NON-STOP TO JACKSON WHERE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE FIVE THIRTY FIVE AM, MAY TWENTY EIGHT. WILL ADVISE OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

CORRECTION TIME WAS 1-02 AM

END AND ACK PLS.

NO AND MO TO BE ADVISED

3-07 AM OK FBI WA ELR

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

Date: 5/29/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-264)

SUBJECT: FREEBUS
RACIAL MATTER

Enclosed herewith are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum which is self-explanatory.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
1 - New Orleans

PRA:cjk
(4)

Agency G2 and dis. end.
Req. Rec'd 6-1-61
Date Forw. 6/5
How Forw. [illegible]
By [illegible]
1 cc - Org unit
2 cc - Destroyed

8 ENCLOSURE

REC-9

157-387-29

EX-108

ED MAY 31 1961

50 JUN 14 1961

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New Orleans 12, Louisiana
May 29, 1961

RE: FREEDOM RIDERS, 1961

On May 26, 1961, Harvey Teasley, Chief of Police, Shreveport, Louisiana, advised that representatives of Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and Louisiana State Police Troop G met with Mayor Clyde Fant and discussed the handling of Freedom Riders should they come to Shreveport. He said that all plans are for the protection of everyone and for the protection of all property. He said that arrests will be made when specific laws have been violated. They will not tolerate or allow outside interference such as action of Ku Klux Klan.

Captain Teasley furnished a copy of a map showing bus station, nearby buildings and streets. This map indicates the number of officers and their station. It indicates that 49 officers will be on assignment within a two-block area of bus station, in addition to detectives at the station. There will also be deputy sheriffs and state police officers at the bus station and in the area.

b6
b7C

To avoid outside interference, such as Ku Klux Klan groups, they will actually block off the bus station area.

Captain Teasley said he had furnished U. S. Marshal [redacted] a copy of the map referred to above.

On May 26, 1961, James M. Goslin (NA), Chief Deputy Sheriff, [redacted] Shreveport, Louisiana, and Lieutenant [redacted] Louisiana State Police, Troop G, Shreveport, advised that if a violation of any state law is committed by the Freedom Riders they plan to warn them and if they fail to heed the warning they will be immediately arrested.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE
157-387-29

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

Date: 5/30/61

Transmit the following in AIRTEL
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (157-369)

RE: FREEDOM RIDERS - 1961 Misc.
RM; DAMV; CR

Re telephone call to Bureau from ASAC RICHARD J. BAKER, Miami, 5/29/61.

Enclosed for the Bureau are 8 copies of letterhead memorandum suitable for dissemination.

Information set forth in letterhead furnished to Jacksonville and Tampa by teletype. A copy of this airtel and letterhead memorandum being furnished to Mobile in accordance with Bureau instructions.

b6
b7C

P.
3 - Bureau (Encls. 8) (AM)
1 - Mobile (Encl. 1) (Info) (AM)
2 - Miami
LCP:mbs
(6)

REC. 17

157-387-30

EX. - 102

JUN 1 1961

ENCLOSURE

AGENCY Miami, Dist CRD
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 6/6/61
HOW FORW. R/S
BY Marilyn

cc - Wick

1 cc Org. Unit
2 cc's Enlarged

50 JUN 14 1961

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 157-369

Miami, Florida
May 30, 1961

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RE: Freedom Ride, 1961

[redacted] Belle Glade, Fla. Florida Police Department, telephonically advised the Miami Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that he had just received information from a bus company in Belle Glade that a bus load of Freedom Riders were en route to Belle Glade and expected to arrive in Belle Glade sometime May 30, 1961. Also that this group would continue on to Miami, Florida, with a brief stop in West Palm Beach, Florida.

[redacted] could furnish no information regarding origination point nor any further information concerning this matter; however, he will immediately contact the Federal Bureau of Investigation upon receipt of any additional information. He furnished this information on May 29, 1961.

[redacted] Counter-Intelligence Corps, Region 7, Miami; Miami Assistant Chief J. A. Youell and Chief of Police William M. Barnes, West Palm Beach, were furnished the above information on May 29, 1961.

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157-387-30
ENCLOSURE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 5/30/61

FROM :

b6
b7C

SUBJECT: **FREEDOM RIDE 1961**
Illinois Central Railroad Leaving
New Orleans, Louisiana, 7:15 a. m.
Scheduled to Arrive Jackson, Mississippi
10:16 a. m. 5/30/61
RACIAL MATTERS; CIVIL RIGHTS

ASAC Sylvester telephonically advised that at 3:24 p. m. (CST) James L. Spencer, Municipal Court Judge, Jackson, Mississippi, found all of the eight freedom riders who were arrested in Jackson today guilty as charged under "Breach of the Peace" Section 2087. 5 of the Mississippi Code. All were sentenced to 60 days in jail and $200 fine with the jail sentence suspended.

ASAC Sylvester advised that there were no incidents in connection with the trial and that there were no police or spectators outside the building. He stated that the local authorities advised the newspapers of the time of the trial, contrary to their original intentions, because they felt that if they did not so advise them the papers would think they were trying to cover up something. He advised that in the courtroom in addition to the defendants and the attorneys, there was [redacted] spectator, [redacted] who is a [redacted] ten newspaper reporters, [redacted] spectators, [redacted] State Sovereignty Commission of Mississippi.

ASAC Sylvester furnished the following recapitulation of the freedom riders who have been arrested in Jackson. Up to the present time a total of 52 have been arrested of which 9 are white males, 32 are Negro males and 11 are Negro females. There have been no white females arrested. He said that of those arrested 8 have been released on bond; one of these is a white male, four are Negro males and three are Negro females. A total of 44 remain in custody ten of which are in the city jail and 34 in the county jail.

LEC:ers
(5)

REC-17

157-387-31

12 JUN 2 1961

63 JUN 14 1961

EX-102

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 31 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 5-31-61 4-10PM CST BC

TO DIRECTOR FBI FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 2P

FREEBUS, NINETEEN SIXTYONE, RM, DAMV, CR. MEDGAR EVERS, FIELD SECRETARY, NAACP FOR MISSISSIPPI, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, ADVISED TODAY RECEIVED WIRE FROM NAACP HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK ADVISING THAT THE FLORIDA STATE CONFERENCE OF NAACP HAS LEAD IN CALLING ALL BRANCHES OF THE NAACP TO SEEK UNSEGREGATED SERVICE IN TRAVEL TERMINALS AND RIDE UP FRONT IN BUSES AND USE AIR LINE TERMINALS ON UNSEGREGAATED BASIS. ALSO THAT NAACP URGES NEGROES TO USE FACILITIES ON UNSEGREGATED BASIS IN NORMAL COURSE OF TRAVEL. EVERS STATED NAACP DEFINITELY INTENDS TO PUSH THE USE OF THE BEACHES BY NEGROES THIS SUMMER ON THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST. UNDERSTANDS THAT LETTERS HAVE GONE OUT TO MR. BURKE MARSHALL, CR DIVISION, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FROM HEADQUARTERS OF

REC 17 157-387-32

JUN 5 1961

END PAGE ONE

50 JUN 14 1961

cc:

PAGE TWO

NAACP IN NEW YORK RE THIS MATTER BUT NO PUBLICITY HAS YET BEEN GIVEN SAME. EVERS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE NAACP WOULD URGE THE USE OF THESE BEACHES BY NEGROES, IT WAS HOPED THERE WOULD BE NO REPETITION OF INCIDENTS THAT HAPPENED THERE LAST YEAR. THE ABOVE IS FOR INFO OF BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES. MIAMI, JACKSONVILLE, MEMEPHIS, MOBILE, TAMPA AND NEW YORK DIVISIONS ADVISED BY AIR MAILMXXX MAIL.

END AND ACK PLS

6-14 PM OK FBI WA WC

TU DISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 3 1 1961
TELETYPE

b6
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 5-31-61 7-48 PM CST LM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS /157-264/ 2P

FREEBUS. RE NEW ORLEANS TELEPHONE CALL TO ATLANTA. [redacted] CORE, JACKSON, MISS., ADVISED TODAY HE WAS INFORMED BY [redacted] CORE PRECINCT WORKER, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ATLANTA TELEPHONE NUMBER SIX EIGHT EIGHT DASH ZERO THREE THREE ONE, THAT IT IS EXPECTED ANOTHER GROUP OF FREEDOM RIDERS MAY DEPART ATLANTA EARLY A. M. JUNE ONE, SIXTYONE, DESTINED FOR JACKSON, MISS. EXPECTED ARRIVAL TIME FOUR TO NINE P. M., SAME DATE. ATLANTA FIELD DIVISION ADVISED [redacted] CONFIRMED GROUP FORMING BUT DOES NOT HAVE NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED. [redacted] EXPECTS TO HAVE THEM MORNING OF JUNE ONE, SIXTYONE, AND WILL FURNISH SAME TO ATLANTA OFFICE WHICH IN TURN HAS ADVISED THEY WILL FURNISH IDENTITIES TO NEW ORLEANS DIVISION. [redacted] INDICATED APPROXIMATELY EIGHT IN GROUP, DOES NOT KNOW MEANS OF TRAVEL BUT BELIEVES WILL BE BY GREYHOUND BUS. [redacted] STATED STARTING EVENING OF JUNE ONE, SIXTYONE, ALL FREEDOM RIDERS WILL BE RUN FROM NASHVILLE, TENN.,

END PAGE ONE -------

REC 17 157-373-33
12 JUN 2 1961

56 JUN 14 1961

cc: [redacted]

6 - Rosen

157-373

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PAGE TWO -------

AND THAT [redacted] IS RETURNING FROM ATLANTA TO NASHVILLE AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT TELEPHONE CHAPPELL TWO SIX SEVEN ZERO ONE. ATLANTA ADVISED [redacted] WAS VERY COOPERATIVE AND THAT [redacted] INDICATED GROUP AT NASHVILLE IS NONVIOLENT MOVEMENT SPONSORED BY THE NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL. BUREAU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS. ATLANTA AND MEMPHIS SENT AIRMAIL COPIES.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 9-46 PM OK FBI WA RAM

TU DISC

CC-MR. ROSEN

No action
5/31/61
JWB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 31 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahen
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

O

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 5-31-61 5-44 PM CST JWB

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S NEW ORLEANS, BIRMINGHAM AND MOBILE

FROM SAC, MEMPHIS /157-140/

FREEBUS, RACIAL MATTERS. [redacted] NSNVM, ADVISED SA [redacted] [redacted] TODAY THAT GROUP ORIGINALLY HAD NINE STUDENTS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO MAKE FREEDOM RIDE TO JACKSON, MISS. ON JUNE ONE NEXT. NSNVM HELD QUOTE "WORKSHOP" UNQUOTE ON NIGHT OF MAY THIRTY LAST TO TRAIN THESE RIDERS. TODAY, HOWEVER, FIVE OF THE NINE DECIDED NOT TO MAKE THE TRIP. FOUR ARE STILL SCHEDULED TO GO BUT NSNVM IS NOW DEBATING AS TO WHETHER IT WOULD BE WISE TO SEND ONLY THE FOUR INASMUCH AS ALL OF THEM ARE INEXPERIENCED IN THE WORKINGS OF THE NVM. [redacted] STATES POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THEY WILL NOT SEND ANOTHER GROUP FROM NASHVILLE. HE ADVISES THAT IF GROUP IS SENT HE WILL FURNISH PARTICULARS AS TO IDENTITIES, ITINERY AND SCHEDULE. HE ALSO STATED THAT NSNVM IS NOT AWARE OF WHETHER OR NOT GROUPS ARE BEING SENT TO JACKSON FROM OTHER CITIES. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING. OTHER OFFICES ADVISED . REC-17 157-387-34

END AND ACK PLS

AND HOLD

7-48 PM OK FBI WA RAM HOLDING

JUN 2 1961

56 JUN 14 1961

CC: [redacted]

EBI-373

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 31 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 5-31-61 1-01 PM CST LH

TO DIRECTOR FBI AND SAC ALBANY

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 1- P

FREEBUS, RM. NEWSPAPER REPORTER ADVISED JACKSON RESIDENT AGENT THIS DATE THAT QUOTE "CORNELL COMMITTEE AGAINST SEGREGATION" UNQUOTE PLANNING SOUTHERN TRIP NEXT WEEK TO AID IN INTEGRATION MOVEMENT. SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP ALLEGED TO BE [redacted] B. APPROX. 1942 AGE NINETEEN, STUDENT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, WHO HAS REPORTEDLY STATED THAT GROUP HAS BEEN TAKING INSTRUCTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF CORE. ALBANY WILL CONTACT SOURCES FOR ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION RE PLANNED TRIP, INCLUDING ITINERARY, NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS, MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION, ETC., SO THAT ALL INTERESTED OFFICES MAY BE ADVISED.

END

WA 3-04 PM OK FBI WA JDS

AL OK FBI AL

WEB

TU DICS

63 JUN 14 1961

[redacted]

NR on name 105-145-83-13

157-387-35

REC-17

WFA 31 3 0

JUN 2 1961

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office	Office of Origin	Date	Investigative Period
NEW ORLEANS	NEW ORLEANS	6/1/61	5/28 - 6/1/61

TITLE OF CASE

FREEDOM RIDE, 1961
Greyhound Bus #4450 from Nashville, Tennessee to Jackson, Mississippi, 5:15 PM, 5/27/61 to 5:37 AM, 5/28/61

0 FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC

Report made by: SA [redacted] Typed By: eah

CHARACTER OF CASE

RM; CR

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Synopsis: XXXXX

REFERENCES

New Orleans teletype to Director entitled, "FREEDOM RIDERS, 1961, RM, DAMV, CR," 5/29/61 (NO File 157-264).

- P -

LEADS

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

1. Will follow and report disposition.

2. Will report results of photographing at scene of arrests.

Approved	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made: 4 - BUREAU 3 - NEW ORLEANS (157-279)		157-387-36 REC-17 JUN 2 1961 EX-116 LDI REC'D - CIA RICH

Loc Dept. Georgia 7/8/61
(loc dept. unit)

62 JUN 15 1961

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☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955 O—344750

NO 157-279

ADMINISTRATIVE

An extra copy of this report is designated for New Orleans in event the Bureau desires to furnish copy to USA, Jackson.

COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: 6/1/61

Field Office File No.: 157-279 Bureau File No.:

Title: FREEDOM RIDE, 1961
Greyhound Bus #4450 from
Nashville, Tennessee to Jackson,
Mississippi, 5:15 PM, 5/27/61 to
5:37 AM, 5/28/61

Character:

RACIAL MATTERS; CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

Instant bus departed Nashville, Tenn., 5:15 PM, 5/27/61, arrived Memphis, Tenn., 10:45 PM, 5/27/61. Several Negro riders used white rest rooms and white restaurant at Greyhound Terminal, Memphis, without incident. Bus left Memphis, 1:26 AM, 5/28/61, and proceeded directly to Jackson, Miss., arriving 5:37 AM, 5/28/61, and on disembarking each of five Negro males and four Negro females placed under arrest by Jackson PD when entered white waiting room at bus station. Arrests made without incident or resistance. All charged "Breach of Peace." Tried in City Court, 5/29/61. All found guilty and sentenced to 60 days suspended and fined $200. All refused to pay fine and confined City Jail. All transferred Hinds County Jail, 5/30/61.

- P -

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NO 157-279

DETAILS:

TRAVEL NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Investigation is predicated on information furnished the New Orleans Office by Memphis on May 27, 1961, advising information had been received that a group of nine Negro students had purchased Greyhound Bus Tickets to Jackson, Mississippi, at Nashville, Tennessee, on May 27, 1961, and planned to test segregated facilities at Jackson. Information was furnished that this group would arrive at Memphis, Tennesee, at 10:45 PM, May 27, 1961, and would probably depart Memphis at 1:30 AM, May 28, 1961, arriving at Jackson at 5:30 AM, the same date.

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AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

On receipt of the above information, the Jackson Police Department, the Mississippi Highway Patrol at Jackson, and Sheriff J. ROBERT GILFOY were advised of the above information.

Later, ASAC CLIFF HALTER, of the Memphis Division, telephonically advised SA [redacted] that the following individuals were aboard the Greyhound Bus which left Nashville at 5:15 PM, May 27, 1961, all of whom are Negroes and students at Tennessee A & I State University, Nashville, Tennessee:

[redacted]

Nashville, Tennessee
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mason, Tennessee
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Nashville, Tennessee
Bolivar, Tennessee
Birmingham, Alabama
Cincinnati, Ohio
Piedmont, Alabama

NO 157-279

On May 28, 1961, the Memphis Division advised that the above group arrived at Memphis, Tennessee, at approximately 10:45 PM, May 27, 1961, and, due to advance publicity, upon arrival were photographed by local press and TV representatives. Several thereafter used the white rest rooms and white restaurant without incident. There was no disturbance whatsoever at Memphis and no unusual gathering of people. Several thereafter sat down in the white waiting room. Greyhound Bus 4450, with the above individuals aboard, departed Memphis at 1:26 AM, May 28, 1961, en route to Jackson.

ARRIVAL JACKSON AND ARRESTS

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/28/61

Greyhound Bus #4450 arrived at the Greyhound Bus Terminal, 219 North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi, at 5:26 AM, on Sunday, May 28, 1961. Just prior to the arrival of the bus, three uniformed police officers and about six detectives were observed on the platform. There were approximately twelve newsmen present; most of whom carried camera equipment. These men gathered around the door of the bus as the passengers got off.

First to leave the bus was a young Negro male, who wore a [redacted] He was subsequently identified as [redacted] Illinois. He was followed by a young Negro girl wearing [redacted]

While the bus was unloading, uniformed police kept access to both the colored waiting room and the white waiting room open. The entrance to the colored waiting room was directly in front of the bus and the entrance to the white waiting room was located to the right of the bus at a somewhat greater distance from the bus.

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Six Negroes were observed as they entered the white waiting room, while the bus continued to unload.

Three additional Negroes entered the white waiting room a short time thereafter.

Captain [redacted] Jackson Police Department, who stood in the white waiting room, advised these Negroes to move on, on two different occasions, indicating with his hand that they should leave the station by way of the first door. They did not leave the station and were placed under arrest by Captain [redacted]

At the time of their arrest, the first group of six Negroes to leave the bus was standing to one side with police officers.

-4-

On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted] eah Date dictated 5/28/61

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No use of force was observed; no handcuffs were used and the arrests observed were made quietly.

Within five minutes after the last arrests were made, the nine Negroes got in the police patrol wagon which was parked in front of the station without offering resistance.

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/28/61

The following was observed at the Greyhound Bus Depot, 219 North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi:

At 5:26 AM, Greyhound Bus #4450 stopped at the passenger platform at the terminal and after the doors were opened the passengers began to get off the bus. Directly in front of the bus was a large sign, "Colored Waiting Room," over entrance doors there. Directly to the right of the bus was a large sign over the entrance doors, "White Waiting Room."

The first passenger from the bus that entered the white waiting room was a white female. After she entered this room, six negroes; four males, and two females walked into the white waiting room and stood by the chairs arranged at the right side of the waiting room facing North Lamar Street. As the group stood there, Police Officer [redacted] in the uniform of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, spoke to the group giving the command, "You must move on." The group was silent and did not move. Officer [redacted] then repeated the command, "You must move on," and the group remained silent and did not move. Chief of Detectives MEADY B. PIERCE, Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, was standing there during this time and on his command officer [redacted] told the group they were under arrest. b6 b7C

Just as these six were being placed under arrest, three other Negroes walked into the white waiting room and stood in about the middle of the room only a few feet from the other group. At that time, Officer [redacted] gave the command to these three, "You must move on," and the three remained standing and silent. Officer [redacted] again gave the order, "You must move on." The three remained silent and did not move. Then, on the order of Chief of Detectives PIERCE, [redacted] told these three they were under arrest, and they moved to where the first group was standing.

There were present in the white waiting room, in addition to the Negroes at this time, approximately 30 or 35 other persons; six people at the lunch counter, about 12 individuals that appeared to be newspapermen, some having camera equipment; about 6 uniformed policemen and 5 or 6 detectives

On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted] oah Date dictated 5/28/61

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of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, the Sheriff of Hinds County, J. R. GILFOY, and Colonel T. B. BIRDSONG, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol.

The officers of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, were under the command of Chief of Detectives MEADY B. PIERCE, of that department. At the time of arrest of the Negroes, no handcuffs were used and the officers were not seen to touch those arrested. The officers present appeared to have no equipment other than usual sidearms.

The arrested individuals then directed by four or five police officers walked through the front door of the bus station to North Lamar Street and entered the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department patrol wagon, which was parked there. The wagon was then driven off by police officers.

It is estimated that about ten minutes passed from the time the Negroes entered the white waiting room until they left in the patrol wagon.

The waitress in charge of the lunch counter at the above time was [redacted] address, [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, who had no assistants at the time.

The driver of Greyhound Bus #4450 was [redacted] address, [redacted] Memphis, Tennessee.

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/28/61

The following events were observed at the Greyhound Bus Depot, 219 North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi:

There were seven uniformed Jackson policemen in front of the depot during the fifteen-minute period from 5:15 AM to 5:30 AM. No police dogs were observed in area.

There was no crowd of spectators in the area and traffic in the area was very light, both vehicular and pedestrian. Bus #4450 arrived at 5:26 AM and drove to the rear of the depot. At this time, there was still no crowd on the streets and no crowd at the depot. At 5:31 AM, the first rider entered the police patrol wagon parked in front of the depot. The patrol wagon left the area at 5:35 AM. All police and deputies left the area immediately after the departure of the police patrol wagon. At 5:40 AM, the area was entirely clear of police and newsmen. All during this elapsed period, no incidents were observed. The exact number of people arrested could not be determined, due to the fact that the photographers blocked the view to the rear of the paddy wagon. The police were not even required to ask anyone to keep moving as only casual interest was displayed by any passersby.

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On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted]eah Date dictated 5/28/61

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FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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b7C

Date 5/28/61

The following observations were made on the morning of May 28, 1961, at approximately 5:30 AM, at the Greyhound Bus Station, 219 North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi, by the below named Special Agent:

Approximately thirty-five persons were observed in the White Waiting Room of the station. About one dozen of these persons were obviously newspapermen. About six uniformed officers of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department were noted and about the same number of plain-clothes detectives of the Jackson Police were there, including Chief of Detectives M. B. PIERCE and Captain [redacted] Several Hinds County Deputy Sheriffs and Sheriff BOB GILFOY were also in the waiting room. The Sheriff's Office did not participate in any manner in the arrests described below.

Six Negroes standing in a group were observed standing near the seats of the waiting room. Captain [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department, addressed the group in words to the effect that they must move on, pointing to the exit to Lamar Street. When the group refused to move, [redacted] again told them that they must move on.

Upon signal, at that point, from Chief of Detectives M. B. PIERCE, [redacted] informed the group they were under arrest. There was no personal contact made between any police officer and any member of the group which could be seen. The group, in an orderly fashion, proceeded through the waiting room escorted by police to the Lamar Street entrance to the White Waiting Room. The group was observed entering a police wagon which was parked outside the bus station. A number of reporters surrounded the wagon as the Riders filed into the rear of the vehicle and there was no physical contact noted between Police Officers and the Riders. No handcuffs were visible on the hands of the Riders and the only equipment carried by the police were normal sidearms.

It is noted that Lamar Street was observed and no signs of police dogs were noted.

Shortly after the group of riders had entered the

On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted] eah Date dictated 5/28/61

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vehicle outside the station, a second group of three Riders filed into the vehicle.

Activity noted by SA [redacted] both in the White Waiting Room and in the street outside the waiting room was entirely orderly and swift.

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/29/61

Chief of Detectives H. D. PIERCE, Police Department, Jackson, Mississippi, advised the following were arrested at the Greyhound Bus Station, 200 Block, North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi, at 5:30 AM, on May 28, 1961. PIERCE advised that the arrest report for all of the persons named shows the arresting officer as Captain [redacted] of the Jackson Police Department. PIERCE advised that all persons were charged with breach of peace. He advised that four detectives and ten uniformed officers participated in the arrest. Following is a list of the persons arrested:

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[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, student, Tennessee A&I, born [redacted] Nashville, Tenn., Negro, female, [redacted] black hair, brown eyes, brown complexion, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted]

[redacted] Chattanooga, Tennessee, student, Tennessee A&I, born [redacted] Hamilton County, Tenn., Negro, male, [redacted] black hair, black eyes, black complexion, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted]

[redacted] Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, student, Tennessee A&I, born [redacted] Oklahoma City, Okla., Negro, male, [redacted] black hair, brown eyes, black complexion, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted]

[redacted] Bolivar, Tennessee, student, Tennessee A & I, born [redacted] Bolivar County, Tenn., Negro, male, [redacted] black hair, brown eyes, light brown complexion, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted]

[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, born [redacted] Tipton County, Tennessee, Negro, male, [redacted] student, Tennessee A&I, [redacted] black complexion, brown eyes, black hair, Father - [redacted] Mother - [redacted]

[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, born [redacted] Calhoun County, Tennessee, Negro, male, [redacted] student, Tennessee A&I, [redacted] black complexion, black hair, black eyes, Father [redacted] Mother - [redacted]

On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA'S [redacted] Date dictated

[redacted] eah

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b7C

NO 157-279

[redacted] Birmingham, Alabama, born [redacted] Jefferson County, Alabama, student, Tennessee A&I, Negro, female, [redacted] brown complexion, black hair, brown eyes.

[redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, born [redacted] Davison County, Tennessee, student, Tennessee A&I, [redacted], brown complexion, black hair, black eyes, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted] Nashville, Tennessee, [redacted] born [redacted] Hamilton County, Ohio, student, Tennessee A&I, [redacted] light brown complexion, black hair, brown eyes, Mother - [redacted] Father - [redacted]

PIERCE advised that after the arrest of the above individuals they were transported to Police Headquarters where they were booked and placed in the City Jail.

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/31/61

Chief of Detectives M. E. PIERCE, Jackson Police Department, on May 28, 1961, advised there will be no Municipal Court held today for Freedom Riders arrested from Greyhound Bus #4450. Court tentatively set for 4:00 PM, May 29, 1961, but efforts being made to have it held earlier, at 3:00 PM. Chief PIERCE advised this group will be charged the same as previous groups. b6 b7C

Those arrested will have opportunity of release on $500 appearance bond this date, May 28, 1961, but, at present, there is no indication they will.

These latest arrests were handled with no extra policemen on duty, other than Chief PIERCE, and Captains [redacted] [redacted]

There was a small number of Deputy Sheriffs available in the area and at the station.

On 5/28/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by ASAC JOSEPH T. SYLVESTER, JR./eah Date dictated 5/28/61

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

NO. 157-279

COURT ACTION

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7C

Date 5/30/61

JACK A. TRAVIS, JR., City Attorney, advised that on May 28, 1961, Captain [redacted] Jackson Police Department, appeared before JAMES L. SPENCER, a Police Justice of the City of Jackson and Ex-Officio Justice of the Peace of Jackson, and signed nine separate affidavits charging the eight individual Freedom Riders did, on or about May 28, 1961, in the corporate limits of Jackson, First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, with intent to provoke a breach of the peace, did then and there wilfully and unlawfully congregate with others in or around the Greyhound Bus Depot, 200 block North Lamar Street, Jackson, Mississippi, a place of business engaged in selling or serving members of the public in violation of Section 2087.5, Mississippi Code of 1942, Annotated, as amended, and did then and there fail or refuse to disperse and move on when ordered to do so by affiant (Captain [redacted]), a law enforcement officer of the City of Jackson, Mississippi, a municipality, contrary to the laws and ordinances in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Mississippi.

D 5

On 5/29/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted] eah Date dictated 5/29/61

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

NO 157-279

The following is the content of Mississippi Code Section 2087.5:

"Disorderly conduct--may constitute felony, when.

"1. Whoever with intent to provoke a breach of the peace, or under circumstances such that a breach of the peace may be occasioned thereby:

"(1) crowds or congregates with others in or upon shore protecting structure or structures, or a public street or public highway, or upon a public sidewalk, or any other public place, or in any hotel, motel, store, restaurant, lunch counter, cafeteria, sandwich shop, motion picture theatre, drive-in, beauty parlor, swimming pool area, or any sports or recreational area or place, or any other place of business engaged in selling or serving members of the public, or in or around any free entrance to any such place of business or public building, or to any building owned by another individual, or a corporation, or a partnership or an association, and who fails or refuses to disperse and move on, or disperse or move on, when ordered so to do by any law enforcement officer of any municipality, or county, in which such act or acts are committed, or by any law enforcement officer of the State of Mississippi, or any other authorized person, or

"(2) insults or makes rude or obscene remarks or gestures, or uses profane language, or physical acts, or indecent proposals to or toward another or others, or disturbs or obstructs or interferes with another or others, or

"(3) while in or on any public bus, taxicab, or other vehicle engaged in transporting members of the public for a fare or charge, causes a disturbance or does or says, respectively, any of the matters or things mentioned in subsection (2) supra, to, toward, or in the presence of any other passenger on said vehicle, or any person outside of said vehicle or in the process of boarding or departing from said vehicle, or any employee engaged in and about the operation of such vehicle, or

"(4) refusing to leave the premises of another when requested so to do by any owner, lessee, or any employees thereof,

"shall be guilty of disorderly conduct, which is made a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars ($200.00), or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than four (4) months, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and if any person shall be guilty of disorderly conduct as defined herein and such conduct shall lead to a breach of the peace or incite a riot in any of the places herein named, and as a result of said breach of the peace or riot another person or persons shall be maimed, killed or injured, then the person guilty of such disorderly conduct as defined herein shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction such person shall be imprisoned in the Penitentiary not longer than ten (10) years.

"2. The provisions of this act are supplementary to the provisions of any other statute of this state.

"3. If any paragraph, sentence, or clause of this act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect any other part, portion or provision of this act, but such other part shall remain in full force and effect."

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/29/61

Chief of Detectives M. B. PIERCE, Jackson Police Department, advised the following individuals were tried in the Jackson Municipal Court, Jackson, Mississippi, before Municipal Judge JAMES L. SPENCER, on May 29, 1961, on a charge of Breach of the Peace, in connection with their arrest on May 28, 1961, and were convicted and each was sentenced to pay a fine of $200.00 and to serve 60 days; however, the 60 days were suspended in each instance;

b6
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[redacted]

Mr. PIERCE advised the above nine individuals were represented by Attorney [redacted] of Jackson, Mississippi, and the case was prosecuted by Jackson City Attorney JACK TRAVIS and Assistant Jackson City Attorney [redacted] He advised the above individuals all entered pleas of not guilty.

Mr. PIERCE advised the trial began at 3:00 PM and ended 3:17 PM. He advised both the prosecution and the defense waived any argument and further advised Judge SPENCER did not deliver an opinion but referred instead to his opinion rendered on May 26, 1961, following the trial of a preceding group of Freedom Riders.

Mr. PIERCE advised the only witness for the prosecution was Captain [redacted] Jackson Police Department, who testified to the circumstances surrounding the arrest of these individuals at Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. PIERCE advised the defense did not call any witness. He advised that following their conviction Attorney

On 5/29/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by [redacted]eah Date dictated 5/29/61

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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NO 157-279

[redacted] told members of the press that defendants were not going to appeal their conviction at the present time and were not going to pay their fines at this time. He advised the defendants were returned to the Jackson City Jail following the trial and will be transferred to the Hinds County Jail, Jackson, Mississippi, May 30, 1961.

Mr. PIERCE advised no one was barred from the courtroom during the above trial; however, he noted that his department had previously notified the public through the local press that reporters would have a priority in gaining admission to the trial. He advised he would estimate that there were approximately twelve to fifteen reporters, including two Negro reporters, present during the above trial together with five or six white spectators, and ten to twelve Negro spectators. He advised he observed MEDGAR EVERS, Field Secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Jackson, Mississippi, present in the courtroom during this trial. Mr. PIERCE advised there were several vacant seats in the courtroom and he would estimate that altogether there were about three vacant rows of seats in the courtroom.

Mr. PIERCE advised that Lieutenant [redacted] testified that he had arrested these individuals because they had refused to move on when ordered to do so. Mr. PIERCE said [redacted] asked [redacted] while [redacted] was testifying on cross-examination, if he [redacted] had arrested these individuals because they were Negroes in a white waiting room and Lt. [redacted] had replied that he would have arrested them in the Negro rest room if he had ordered them to move on and they had refused this order.

Mr. PIERCE could furnish no further information regarding the above trial.

Bureau Agents observed that uniformed officers of the Jackson, Mississippi, Police Department were on duty outside the Municipal Court Building prior to and during the above trial. No crowd gathered and there were no incidents.

FD-302 (Rev. 1-25-60) FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/31/61

Assistant Chief of Police M. B. PIERCE, Jackson Police Department, advised that this group of prisoners convicted on May 29, 1961, was transferred from the City Jail to the Hinds County Jail by walking them across the street with three detectives guarding them. He stated no newspapermen, cameramen, or spectators were present during this transfer.

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On 5/30/61 at Jackson, Mississippi File # 157-279

by SA [redacted]eah Date dictated 5/31/61

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7C

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: NEW ORLEANS
Date: 6/1/61

Field Office File No.: 157-279 Bureau File No.:

Title: FREEDOM RIDE, 1961
Greyhound Bus #4450 from
Nashville, Tennessee to Jackson,
Mississippi, 5:15 PM, 5/27/61 to
5:37 AM, 5/28/61

Character: RACIAL MATTERS; CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

Instant bus departed Nashville, Tenn., 5:15 PM, 5/27/61, arrived Memphis, Tenn., 10:45 PM, 5/27/61. Several Negro riders used white rest rooms and white restaurant at Greyhound Terminal, Memphis, without incident. Bus left Memphis, 1:26 AM, 5/28/61, and proceeded directly to Jackson, Miss., arriving 5:37 AM, 5/28/61, and on disembarking each of five Negro males and four Negro females placed under arrest by Jackson PD when entered white waiting room at bus station. Arrests made without incident or resistance. All charged "Breach of Peace." Tried in City Court, 5/29/61. All found guilty and sentenced to 60 days suspended and fined $200. All refused to pay fine and confined City Jail. All transferred Hinds County Jail, 5/30/61.

- P -

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NO 157-279

DETAILS:

TRAVEL, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Investigation is predicated on information furnished the New Orleans Office by Memphis on May 27, 1961, advising information had been received that a group of nine Negro students had purchased Greyhound Bus Tickets to Jackson, Mississippi, at Nashville, Tennessee, on May 27, 1961, and planned to test segregated facilities at Jackson. Information was furnished that this group would arrive at Memphis, Tennessee, at 10:45 PM, May 27, 1961, and would probably depart Memphis at 1:30 AM, May 28, 1961, arriving at Jackson at 5:30 AM, the same date.

AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

b6
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On receipt of the above information, the Jackson Police Department, the Mississippi Highway Patrol at Jackson, and Sheriff J. ROBERT GILFOY were advised of the above information.

Later, ASAC CLIFF HALTER, of the Memphis Division, telephonically advised SA [redacted] that the following individuals were aboard the Greyhound Bus which left Nashville at 5:15 PM, May 27, 1961, all of whom are Negroes and students at Tennessee A & I State University, Nashville, Tennessee:

[redacted]

Nashville, Tennessee
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mason, Tennessee
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Nashville, Tennessee
Bolivar, Tennessee
Birmingham, Alabama
Cincinnati, Ohio
Piedmont, Alabama

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 1 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-1-61 6-12 PM EST JBB

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SACS BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE, AND NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, ATLANTA /157-232/ / 2P

FREEBUS, RM.

[redacted] STUDENT COORDINATOR, SNCC, [redacted] U.S. [redacted] SCLC AND [redacted] PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR, SCLC ADVISED SAS A COORDINATING COMMITTEE BEING SET UP HEADED BY [redacted] TO COORDINATE FREEDOM RIDES THROUGHOUT SOUTH. [redacted] IN CHARGE OF ALL PUBLICITY. HOWEVER, PRESS RELEASES WILL NOT BE MADE CONCERNING FREEDOM RIDES AT THIS TIME DUE TO INSTABILITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT IN ALA. [redacted] STATED ATLANTA OFFICE WILL BE ADVISED OF ALL ORGANIZED FREEDOM RIDES BETWEEN SOUTHERN CITIES. [redacted] ADVISED GROUP LEFT NASHVILLE JUNE ONE, AM, FOR MONTGOMERY. MONTGOMERY TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED OF THIS. FURTHER ADVISED GROUP WOULD PASS THROUGH BIRMINGHAM BUT WOULD NOT TEST FACILITIES THERE. [redacted] ADVISED LATER GROUP OF FOUR WHITES AND ONE NEGRO LEAVING ATLANTA TWO FORTYFIVE PM JUNE ONE TO ARRIVE IN MONTGOMERY SEVEN THIRTY PM, CT WOULD BE MET BY GROUP OF FOUR, INCLUDING TWO WHITES AND TWO NEGROES, AT MONTGOMERY AND GO ON TO JACKSON. [redacted] IDENTITIED

REC-17 157-387-37
JUN 5 1961
REC'D - CIA [illegible]

END PAGE ONE

SEL SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Cm-195 4/10/79

50 JUN 14 1961

157-373

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b7C

PAGE TWO

GROUP LEAVING ATLANTA AS [redacted] MISC 62

[redacted] HE

IDENTIFIED THE PEOPLE IN MONTGOMERY WHO WILL JOIN THEM AS

[redacted] AND

[redacted] ATLANTA PD,

AHA MISC.

GSP AND LAGRANGE, GA. PD IMMEDIATELY ADVISED. ABOVE TELEPHONICALLY FURNISHED MONTGOMERY RA.

END ACK

WA 7-18 PM OK FBI WA MSL

BH OK FBI BH MJK

MO IK FBI O OK FBI MO MCM

NO OK FBI NO LM

TU DIMSCM

FBI 1 1970 FBI
DECLASSIFIED BY 60324 UC BAW/STP

cc Mr. Rosen

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: June 1, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 bja #428602

On 5/29/61, 22 of the freedom riders who were incarcerated at Jackson, Mississippi, were moved from the county jail to the Hinds County Penal Farm at Raymond, Mississippi. [redacted] alleged that during the booking procedure at the Penal Farm they were mistreated for failing to answer questions "Yes sir" or "No sir."

[redacted] furnished a signed statement to Bureau Agents in which [redacted] alleged that Max Thomas, Superintendent of the Penal Farm, slapped [redacted] on the face twice when [redacted] responded to questions by stating "Uh huh" or by grunting to indicate a negative answer. [redacted] did not require medical attention.

[redacted] was interviewed by Bureau Agents and submitted a signed statement to the effect that [redacted] unintentionally failed to add "sir" when responding "Yes" or "No" to the questions. On one occasion, [redacted] replied "Uh huh." [redacted] alleges that an unknown subject whom [redacted] believed to be a guard hit [redacted] on the head with a stick several times. Max Thomas swung at [redacted] with his fist but [redacted] blocked the blows. Thomas shoved [redacted] and a third subject, apparently a guard, allegedly struck [redacted] with a blackjack. [redacted] suffered a one inch cut on [redacted] forehead which bled profusely and a smaller laceration on the top of [redacted] head. Max Thomas furnished first aid treatment by applying a gauze compress and a doctor dressed the wound an hour later. [redacted] required no further medical treatment.

Upon hearing of the above incidents, Governor Ross Barnett met in his office with Sheriff Gilfoy of Hinds County and the Hinds County Board of Supervisors. As a result of this meeting, Max Thomas was immediately suspended pending a thorough investigation by the Sheriff.

157-387-38

REC-17

5 JUN 8 1961

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Belmont
WLM:vjh
(9)

EX-115

56 JUN 14 1961

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

After the above incidents, Sheriff Gilfoy returned the freedom riders from the Penal Farm to the county jail to prevent any future incident. The Mayor of Jackson, in a meeting with police officials, stated that if the county jail should become filled the city jail will be available for the housing of freedom riders.

ACTION

The above information was discussed with Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall on 5/30/61, and it was Mr. Marshall's desire that no further investigation be conducted in the absence of contrary instructions from the Department. Memoranda confirming conversation with Mr. Marshall have been forwarded to the Civil Rights Division.

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-58)

F B I

Date: 5/26/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-71801)

FROM: SAC, NEW ORLEANS (105-1057)

SUBJECT: ORIGINAL KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN (LOUISIANA)
RACIAL MATTERS
MISC.
FREEDOM RIDERS, 1961
RACIAL MATTERS

Agency Department of Justice
Req. Rec'd
Date Forw. 6/5/61
How Forw. Reg
By

On [redacted] PCI (RAC) [redacted] furnished information concerning a meeting he attended [redacted] The meeting called by J. D. SWENSON, Grand Dragon, Ku Klux Klan, Bossier City, La. Details of meeting set forth on letterhead memorandum attached.

The [redacted] mentioned in letterhead memorandum is PCI [redacted]

Local CIC, PD, and SO, Shreveport, La., being advised this date. Also, La. State Police advised.

(3) - Bureau (Enc. 8)
5 - New Orleans (2 - 105-1057)
(1 - 105-1057D)
(1 - 157-214)

ENCLOSURE [redacted]

TPK:lil
(8)

157-387-
NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 12 1961

8 ENCLOSURE

MAY 29 1961

789

62 JUN 13 1961

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

cc - Mich

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-71801-7893

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana
May 26, 1961

ORIGINAL KNIGHTS OF THE
KU KLUX KLAN (LOUISIANA)

FREEDOM RIDERS, 1961

On May 26, 1961, a confidential source advised that J. D. SWENSON, Grand Dragon of the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Bossier City, Louisiana, called a meeting of the Klan on the night of May 25, 1961. The purpose of the meeting was for making plans of action should Freedom Riders come to Shreveport, Louisiana. There were 29 men present at the meeting. Mr. SWENSON stated he would know in advance should the Freedom Riders come to Shreveport, Louisiana, and he would call his men at least an hour before their arrival here. His men would meet in Bossier City, Louisiana, and then go to the bus station in Shreveport using parking lots near the station to park their cars. All of the men would buy bus tickets to nearby towns to give a logical reason for their being at the station. Nine men would stay inside the station. In addition to the nine men in the station, four men would be at each of four doors entering the station. Should the Freedom Riders attempt to enter the white waiting rooms, the men at the doors would lock arms and not allow them to enter. If the Freedom Riders would get through the doors, they would be attacked by the men in the station, four of whom would have plastic spray bottles of some form of mustard gas or oil that burns. They would spray this near the waistline which will cause immediate burning and pain.

There is to be no interference with the police or federal officers. Klansmen are to have no identification

157-887-
ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

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b7C

except name and address on them and a Citizens Council card hidden on their person. All are to wear poppies, the type worn on Memorial Day, for identification to each other. They are not to be armed. They are not to identify themselves as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

[redacted], also known as [redacted] Louisiana, employed at [redacted] Louisiana, [redacted] at the bus station. They plan to have photographer at station taking photographs and to have attorney available.

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FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

b6
b7C

FBI

Date: June 1, 1961

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-264)

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Enclosed are original and seven copies of letterhead memorandum setting forth copy of letter, for Bureau's information.

3 - Bureau (AM) (Encls. 8)
1 - New Orleans
JTS:ez
(4)

ENCLOSURE

AGENCY Hoover
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 6/6/61
HOW FORW. A.M.
BY Jean Dill

rec'd unit
Rec'd Destroyed
REC 17
157-387-39

23 JUN 7 1961

EX-125
EX-124

6 - Hoover

C. C. Wick

Approved: JUN 15 1961 Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

New Orleans, Louisiana
June 1, 1961

b6
b7C

FREEDOM RIDERS

Mr. J. A. Travis, City Attorney, Jackson, Miss., made available to a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at Jackson, Miss., on June 1, 1961, a letter dated May 30, 1961, from [redacted] Attorney at Law, [redacted] addressed to Honorable James L. Spencer, Judge of the Municipal Court, Jackson, Miss.; Mr. J. A. Travis, City Attorney, Jackson, Miss.; and Mr. M. B. Pierce, Chief of Detectives, Jackson, Miss. This letter reads as follows:

"Gentlemen:

"Following my return from your city where I assisted in the defense of some of the 'Freedom Riders' last week, I have been asked many questions regarding the type of treatment accorded the defense lawyers by the police and court officials.

"I wish you to know that it has been a pleasure for me to honestly state that I know of no instance where defense lawyers have been treated in nicer. It is always a pleasant experience to work with or oppose men who uphold the high principles of our profession.

"Thank you for your courtesies shown while in your city and if our office can ever be of assistance to you in this area, we will be only too happy to oblige.

"Very truly yours,

/s/ [redacted]

A copy of this letter is directed to [redacted] was an attorney who obtained the release of one of the Freedom Riders.)

157-381-39

ENCLOSURE

b6
b7C

FREEDOM RIDERS

Mr. Travis advised that [redacted] was one of the co-defense counsel at the first trial of the Freedom Riders.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 1 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS-MISC

URGENT 6/1/61 3-57 AM TDM

TO DIRECTOR -3- AND SACS ATLANTA, MOBILE, MEMPHIS AND NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, NEW YORK /157-391/ 2P

FREEDOM RIDE, NINETEEN SIXTY ONE, RM, DAMV, CR. RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO SAC, ATLANTA, FIVE THIRTY ONE SIXTY ONE. REFERENCED AIRTEL REQUESTED INFORMATION FROM [redacted] OF CORE TO DETERMINE DETAILS OF FUTURE FREEDOM RIDERS WHO MAY COME TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE ONE OR TWO NEXT. [redacted]

NYC, [redacted] OF CORE, THIRTY EIGHT PARK ROW, NYC, ADVISED SA [redacted] ON FIVE THIRTY ONE SIXTY ONE, THAT NO ~~QUOTE~~ "FREEDOM RIDES" ~~END QUOTE~~ SPONSORED BY CORE WERE LEAVING THE NYC AREA IN THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS. HE STATED THAT THE ONLY FREEDOM RIDES THAT HE KNEW OF WERE ONE LEAVING MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, FOR JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, ON SATURDAY JUNE THREE NINETEEN SIXTY ONE AND A GROUP LEAVING ON THE WEEKEND OF JUNE SECOND, THIRD, NINETEEN SIXTY ONE FROM NEW ORLEANS FOR JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. [redacted] FURTHER STATED THAT THE CORE STAFF IN MONTGROMERY, JACKSON AND NEW

END PAGE ONE

REC 17 157-387-40

12 JUN 2 1961

56 JUN 14 1961

cc [redacted]

6-MM

~~157-373~~

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO

ORLEANS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO NOTIFY THE FBI OF ANY FUTURE FREEDOM RIDES. HE SUGGESTED CONTACTING [redacted] CORE REPRESENTATIVE IN MONTGOMERY, AT TELEPHONE NUMBER MONTGOMERY TWO SIX TWO SEVEN SIX SEVEN FOUR. [redacted] WILL BE RECONTACTED AT THE CORE OFFICE AT THIRTY EIGHT PARK ROW, NYC, TOMORROW, JUNE FIRST NINETEEN SIXTY ONE, FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, AND BUREAU AND OFFICES CONCERNED WILL BE FURTHER ADVISED.

END

NY R NR 03 WA JHA

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 2, 1961

b6
b7C

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

0 FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Mr. Rosen advised in connection with the group of freedom riders scheduled to leave by bus from Montgomery, Alabama, at 11:30 A. M. (1:30 P. M. Washington time) for Jackson, Mississippi, that they left on schedule. He advised that the original group of 7 was implemented by one additional person, making a total of 8 which left on the Trailways bus. Prior to leaving the bus terminal the group tested the facilities and no incidents occurred.

In view of the preliminary injunction and the restraining order which were issued by Judge Johnson and effective at 10:00 A. M. today, the information concerning the group scheduled to leave at 11:30 A. M. had been furnished to the U. S. Marshal, who in turn made the information available to Judge Johnson. Judge Johnson requested no action in connection with this group.

Mr. Rosen also advised that Judge Johnson, following the issuing of the preliminary injunction and the restraining order, stated that if there were no recurrences of violence such as we have seen in the past, the court's orders would amount to nothing, and he hoped that would be the case. He stated, however, that if the court's orders were disobeyed, those disobeying the orders would end up in the Atlanta penitentiary.

In the event any incidents are reported which appear to be violations of the preliminary injunction or the restraining order, they will immediately be taken up with the Department to determine what action is desired.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP2 Rapatsch/HB

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

JRM:jh
(9)

REC- 17 157-387-41

16 JUN 5 1961

6 - New

50 JUN 14 1961

EX-113

FBI

DATE: 6/2/61

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT

Via AIRTEL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI ~~(157-373)~~

FROM SAC, NEW YORK (157-391)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-10-2009 BY 60324 UC BAW/SAB/STW

SUBJECT FREEBUS
(OO: MOBILE)

b2
b7D
b6
b7C

CP, USA-DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION MATTERS
IS-C
(OO:NEW YORK)

Enclosed herewith are 8 copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning captioned activity.

The source mentioned in the enclosed memo is [redacted]

Enclosed memorandum is being classified ~~"Confidential"~~ in order to protect the source, exposure of whom would adversely affect the defense interest of the US.

[redacted] will be in attendance at this meeting and the Bureau will be advised of its result by airtel and letterhead memorandum.

4 - Bureau ~~(157-373)~~ (Encs.8) (RM)
1 - Birmingham (Enc.1) (RM)
1 - Mobile (Enc.1) (RM)
1 - New York (100-89691) (CP,USA-DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION MATTERS)
1 - New York [redacted]
1 - New York (100-79303) (CORE) (41)
1 - New York (157-391) (41)
1 - New York (100-128804) (NYD, CP-YOUTH MATTERS) (414)

JTO:mtj
(13)

b6
b7C

REC-17 157-387-42

Approved: Sent M Per

Special Agent in Charge

1 JUN 3 1961

4 ENCLOSURES

62 JUN 5 1961

AGENCY [redacted]
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 6-7-61
HOW FORW.
BY

EX-113

UNREC COPY AND COPY OF ENCL FILED IN 100-3-93

FREEBUS FOLDERS - MISC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7D

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 08-10-2009

Bureau 157-373
New York 157-392

Re: Freedom Ride, 1961
Racial Matters; Destruction
of Aircraft or Motor Vehicle;
Civil Rights

On [redacted] a confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that at a meeting of the Youth Branch, Kings County, Communist Party, [redacted] it was decided that members of the Youth Branch should contact the Concord Baptist Church on Marcy Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, in an effort to obtain a suitable site for a Freedom Riders rally which was tentatively scheduled for June 16, 1961.

This same source advised that when a suitable site is obtained for this rally, the members of the Youth Branch would then contact various mass organizations in an effort to insure a large attendance.

According to this same source the sponsorship for this rally has not yet been decided upon.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency. It and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE
157-387-42

FD-36 (Rev. 12-13-56)

FBI

Date: 6/2/61

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Agency Ltr to be routed
Req. Rec'd _____
Date Forw. 6/2/61
How Forw. hand
By _____
Ltr's destroyed

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, JACKSONVILLE (157-235)

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE, 1961
RACIAL MATTERS;
DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES;
CIVIL RIGHTS

Enclosed are original and seven copies of Letterhead Memorandum dated and captioned as above at Jacksonville, Florida, setting out information from Chief FRANK STOUTAMIRE, Tallahassee, Florida, Police Department, concerning a recent conference between the Florida Governor's Office, State, and local law enforcement agencies in connection with captioned matter.

On 6/1/61, the information contained in enclosed letterhead memorandum was furnished to [redacted] CIC Agent, Tallahassee, Florida.

b6
b7C

ENCLOSURE

3 Bureau (Enc. 8) (ENRM)
3 - Jacksonville (1 - 157-235)
(1 - 157-135) (1 - 105-66)
GDM:ag
(6)

157-387-43

REC 17

EX-113

JUN 5

cc - Wick

Approved: _____ Sent _____

Special Agent in Charge

56 JUN 14 1961

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Jacksonville, Florida
June 2, 1961

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

FREEDOM RIDE, 1961

On June 1, 1961, Chief Frank Stoutamire, Tallahassee, Florida, Police Department, advised that James Kynes, Administrative Aid to Governor Farris Bryant, called a meeting of State and local law enforcement agencies at the State Capitol Building on May 31, 1961. According to Chief Stoutamire, at this meeting were City Manager Arvah Hopkins, all members of the City Commission, Colonel H. N. Kirkman, Director, Florida Highway Patrol, and himself. Mr. Kynes presided over this meeting. FLA.

Chief Stoutamire said that Mayor Joe Cordell, who was ill, and Sheriff Bill Joyce, out of town, were invited but absent from the meeting.

Chief Stoutamire said the general topic of discussion at this meeting was what action is to be placed into effect in the event of the arrival of Freedom Riders at any of the interstate terminals in the Tallahassee area which include rail, air, and bus facilities.

Continuing, Chief Stoutamire said the over-all general plan agreed upon between the various State and local agency heads was that the police on receipt of information that Freedom Riders were at any local terminal would go immediately to that facility accompanied by at least two deputy sheriffs. In the event violations of State and Municipal laws were apparent, immediate arrest would be made, and the Freedom Riders quickly removed to the local jail, if possible, before a crowd of onlookers could provoke a fight or incident.

b6
b7C

Chief Stoutamire said that in the event such a crowd would form, the Florida Highway Patrol would be then called. If this agency felt more assistance was imperative, the Governor's Office would be advised, and a local unit of the Florida National Guard stationed at Tallahassee, Florida, commanded by Captain [redacted] would be called on for assistance to maintain order.

ENCLOSURE
157-387-43

Chief Stoutamire said the recent incidents at Birmingham, Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama, and Jackson, Mississippi, prompted the above meeting as well as the recent remarks of Florida National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) leaders to the effect that Municipal laws pertaining to segregated interstate travel terminals would be tested by Freedom Riders in the future.

Chief Stoutamire said that on May 31, 1961, on express instructions from Greyhound officials in Chicago, Illinois, the local Greyhound Bus Terminal Manager had all terminal signs reading White or Colored Waiting Rooms changed to read simply Waiting Room. He said the local Trailways Bus Terminal, the Municipal Airport, and the local Railroad Terminal have not changed their segregated-type signs, however.

The foregoing information was furnished to Special Agent [redacted] Office of Military Intelligence (CIC), Tallahassee, Florida, on June 1, 1961. b6 b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 2 1961

TELETYPE

URGENT 6-2-61 4-54 PM CDST EAH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, CHICAGO /157-NEW/ 1P

FREEDOM RIDERS., RACIAL MATTERS. RE NEW ORLEANS TELEPHONE CALL INSTANT DATE. ON JUNE TWO INSTANT [redacted] ADVISED [redacted] FREEDOM RIDERS ACTIVITIES IN CHICAGO AREA AND THAT IF ANY PERSONS FROM CHICAGO AREA PLANNED TO GO TO MISSISSIPPI AS PART OF THE FREEDOM RIDERS, HE WOULD KNOW [redacted] ADVISED [redacted] THERE IS NO MOVEMENT FOR SENDING ANY FREEDOM RIDERS FROM CHICAGO AREA TO MISS. DURING WEEKEND JUNE THREE AND FOUR NEXT., ADVISED THAT THE ONLY PERSON KNOWN TO HIM TO BE IN MISS. AT PRESENT TIME AND WHO WILL BE THERE OVER COMING WEEKEND IS [redacted]

CHICAGO INDICES REFLECT NO IDENTIFIABLE SUBVERSIVE INFORMATION RE [redacted] FORMER [redacted] ADVISED HE WOULD KEEP CHICAGO DIVISION ADVISED AS TO ANY PROPOSED TRIPS TO MISS. BY FREEDOM RIDERS FROM CHICAGO AREA AND BUREAU AND NEW ORLEANS WILL BE KEPT ADVISED. SOURCE IS RELIABLE.

REC 17 157-387-44

END AND ACK PLS IN ODR

FBI
RECD - CIA BICH
5 JUN 1961

WA 5-57 PM O K FBI WA BH

NO OK FBI NO JBH

TU DISC

FBI, NX-113

FBI
RECD - CHICAGO
63 JUN 14 1961

cc - [redacted]

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISS.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 2, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Mr. Rosen advised information had been received through the Highway Patrol concerning the group of Freedom Riders that left Montgomery, Alabama, today at 11:30 a.m. The bus had proceeded to Selma, Alabama, where an elderly white woman (name not known at this time) left the bus and swore out a warrant for one of the Freedom Riders - either [redacted] for breach of the peace and assault.

b6
b7C

Mr. Rosen advised that from information now available, it appears the Highway Patrol apparently was requested to stop the bus, following which [redacted] was arrested by the Dallas County, Alabama, Sheriff's Office. The bus was stopped long enough for the complainant to be taken out to the bus in order that she could continue her journey to Dallas, Texas.

Additional details are being obtained concerning this matter and will be submitted as soon as possible.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

JRM:mpd (8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 Baltrop #428602

[redacted]

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Conrad JS 4/10/79

REC-17 157-387-45

25 JUN 8 1961

EX-113

6 - Rosen

56 JUN 14 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/2/61

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

SA [redacted] called from the Montgomery Resident Agency at 12:36 a.m. to advise that two more groups of freedom riders were to depart in the morning for Jackson, Mississippi.

The first group, composed of four Negroes and three whites, is scheduled to depart at 7:00 a.m., Central Standard Time, by Trailways Bus en route to Jackson. This group is made up of the following individuals:

[redacted] male
[redacted] female
[redacted] female
[redacted] male
[redacted] male
[redacted] male
[redacted] male

ALA. MISS

b6
b7C

The second group is also composed of four Negroes and three whites and will depart via Trailways Bus at 11:30 a.m., Central Standard Time, en route to Jackson. This group is composed of the following individuals:

[redacted] male
[redacted] female
[redacted] male
[redacted] male
[redacted] male
[redacted] male
[redacted] female

ALA. MISS

These two freedom rides are originating in Montgomery. Some of the above-named individuals arrived in Montgomery from Atlanta and Nashville but they did not arrive as freedom riders and the groups are being made up in Montgomery. They plan to test the facilities in Montgomery prior to departing tomorrow morning and they will test the facilities in Jackson upon their arrival there. Some members of these groups are believed to be spending the night at Reverend Abernathy's residence and some at the residence of [redacted]

REC-11 157-387-46

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL.

FCW:jam
(3)

EX-13 6/6/61 4/10/79

12 JUN 5 1961

56 JUN 14 1961

6-Rosen

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

b6
b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
RE: FREEBUS

SA [redacted] stated appropriate local authorities have been advised and Jackson has also been alerted and will advise local authorities there. This information was obtained from [redacted] a CORE representative in Montgomery. [redacted] stated he did not know if there were any additional freedom rides scheduled to leave Montgomery.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STAT

Memo

b6
b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: June 3, 1961

FROM :

Time of Call 11:50 a. m.

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

Mr. Rosen telephonically furnished information regarding the arrest of One Mrs. J. C. Thomas of Luverne, Alabama, an elderly white woman was the complainant in the case. This lady had to ride with one leg up on the seat which prevented the seat being occupied by another passenger. According to the Sheriff James G. Clark, Selma, Alabama, had tried to sit in the seat on two occasions. In making these attempts had sat on the leg of Mrs. Thomas. Mrs. Thomas filed a complaint in Selma and assault and disturbing the peace.

and claims that he is not a freedom rider but merely an observer. claims to be with the

Upon being arrested by Sheriff Clark, was taken to the jail and booked on the charges and arraigned before Judge Hugh Mallory. His bond has been set at $750 on each count. He did not make bond on and was confined in the county jail.

Mr. Rosen advised that the facts of the matter had been presented to the U. S. Attorney, Montgomery, and the U. S. Attorney advised that he did not consider this to be a violation of the court order inasmuch as the order had not been served on when he departed from Montgomery, Alabama. It is noted the bus departed at 11:30 a. m., Montgomery time, on 6/2/61 and the judge's order was not issued by the court until after 10 AM, 6/2/61.

EX.-102 REC-17 157-387-47

Mr. Rosen advised that there was a statement in the newspaper that Reverend King and others indicated they might violate the terms of the temporary restraining order. King was quoted in the paper having stated "I think we have revealed through many experiences that we have no fear of going to jail and staying in jail when necessary. We have transformed jails and prisons from dungeons of shame to havens of freedom and justice."

25 JUN 8 1961

Mr. Rosen advised that local news articles reported leaders of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in New York planned to appeal the order issued against them by Judge Johnson. Mr. Rosen advised that Commissioner of Police L. B. Sullivan has barred all newsmen from the jail and the police offices and does not permit them access to reports of incidents occurring in the city.

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Corr/pb 4/10/79

REC'D - CIA BIGHTS

58 JUN 14 1961

CLM:ers (5)

b6
b7C

Memorandum for Mr. Rosen

Mr. Rosen advised that the trial is scheduled for Wednesday 6/7/61 regarding the Negro leaders who had been arrested at the bus station in Montgomery 5/25/61. Rosen stated that it is speculated that Thurgood Marshall of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and an attorney from Yale University named [redacted] will be present to represent the individuals being tried.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 3 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

URGENT 6-3-61 1-35 AM WFM b6 b7C

TO DIRECTOR,

FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS /157-286/ 1 P

FREEBUS. RE N. O. PHONE CALL JACKSON R A TO BUREAU JUNE SECOND.

FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE DATA ON FREERIDERS ARRESTED SIX FIFTY FIVE P. M. JACKSON JUNE SECOND. [redacted] BORN [redacted] NYC, [redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK-GREY HAIR. [redacted] REFUSED TO FURNISH DOB, [redacted] BLUE EYES, MEDIUM, BROWN HAIR. [redacted] BORN [redacted] AT NASHVILLE, TENN., [redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR. [redacted] BORN [redacted] NASHVILLE, TENN., [redacted], BROWN EYES , BLACK HAIR. [redacted] DOB [redacted] AMORY MISS., [redacted], BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR. [redacted] DOB [redacted] AT OPALIKA, ALA., [redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR. [redacted] DOB [redacted] MOIRENCI, MICH. [redacted] POSST TWO YEARS. [redacted] CORINTH MISS., NINETEEN FORTYEIGHT, [redacted] ATLANTA NINETEEN SIXTYONE , SIT IN DEMONSTRATIONS. OTHERS ADMIT NO PRIOR ARRESTS. FOR INFORMATION BUREAU, S C AND P D , JACKSON, ADVISE THAT FREEDOM RIDERS CONTINUE HUNGER STRIKE AT CITY AND COUNTY JAILS.

END AND ACK

3-40 AM OK FBI WA JHA

6 FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

157-286-116

REC-17 157-387-48

66 JUN 13 1961

14 JUN 7 1961

6-Flew

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 3 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-3-61 1-48 PM CDST EAH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, CHICAGO /157-NEW/ 2P

FREEBUS., RACIAL MATTERS. RE BUREAU CALL TO CHICAGO, JUNE THREE, INSTANT, AND CHICAGO TEL TO BUREAU, JUNE TWO, LAST. ARTICLE, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, JUNE THREE, INSTANT, DATELINED MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, JUNE TWO, PAREN SPECIAL ENPAREN, STATES TWO MORE GROUPS OF FREEDOM RIDERS OF FOURTEEN PERSONS, INCLUDING TWO WHITE MEN AND TWO NEGROES FROM CHICAGO, LEFT MONTGOMERY BY BUS FOR JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. [redacted] MEN FROM CHICAGO, [redacted] B. APPROX. AGE [redacted] OF [redacted] AT SELMA, ALABAMA, CHARGED WITH ASSAULT AND DISTURBING THE PEACE. FIRST GROUP OF SIX FREEDOM RIDERS ARRESTED IN JACKSON WHEN MEMBERS ENTERED WHITE ONLY WAITING ROOM OF BUS STATION. SECOND GROUP ALSO SEIZED FOR ATTEMPTING TO INTEGRATE WHITE WAITING ROOM. SECOND GROUP INCLUDED THE [redacted] ALL OF CHICAGO.

END PAGE ONE

REC- 17 157-387-49

SEE SERIAL NR 50X FOR CORRECTION SERIAL. Corrected 4/10/79

EX-116

16 JUN 7 1961

50 JUN 14 1961

cc Klein

b2
b7D

PAGE TWO

FORMER [redacted] FREEDOM RIDERS ACTIVITIES IN CHICAGO, KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT PERSONS CURRENTLY IN ALABAMA FROM CHICAGO REFERRED TO IN TRIBUNE ARTICLE AND BELIEVES THEY MAY BE INDIVIDUALS WHO WENT TO ALABAMA STRICTLY AS INDIVIDUALS AND NOT AS ORGANIZED PART OF FREEDOM RIDERS FROM CHICAGO.

CC-MR. ROSEN

FBI
DEC'D - CIA RIGHTS

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/4/61

FROM : [redacted]

Time of Call: 11:45 a.m.

SUBJECT: FREEBUS FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

My memorandum 6/3/61 mentioned the [redacted] by the sheriff at Selma, Alabama, on 6/2/61, on the complaint of an elderly white woman that he had tried to sit on her leg. [redacted] claimed he was not a freedom rider but an observer.

Mr. Rosen advised that [redacted] is now out of jail and has contacted an Associated Press newsman, [redacted] He told [redacted] that while he was in jail, the sheriff turned some people loose on him and they beat him up. [redacted] has made no complaint in this regard to the FBI or any other individual other than the newsman. The sheriff has stated that he saw [redacted] at breakfast on 6/3/61 and [redacted] had no such complaint and did not have any marks on him indicating any beating. It looks as if he is trying to build up a story for the newspaper that has no foundation.

ACTION:

None. For information in the event a civil rights complaint is received.

JLS:dsj
(3)

[redacted]

EX.-102

157-387-50

RECORDED - 83

JUN 8 1961

189

58 JUN 14 1961

United States Department of Justice

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

b6
b7C

OCT 25

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

[redacted]

Los Angeles, California 90024

Dear [redacted]

This responds to your letter of October 13, 1978.

As Mr. Shea informed you in his letter dated September 11, 1978, any request for correction or amendment of information in F.B.I. records should be submitted to F.B.I. Headquarters. Accordingly, I have referred your letter and enclosures to the Bureau for consideration and direct response to you. If you are dissatisfied with the eventual response by the Bureau to your request for correction of records, you may appeal again to this Office.

157-387-50 X
NOT RECORDED
APR 11 1979

Sincerely,

Richard L. Huff, Deputy Director
Office of Privacy and Information Appeals

ENCLOSURE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 190-16909-18

APR 12 1979

FBI Sue SM/Jim Cumiece Room 6975

8-1-00
CL. 11, 11, 1978

b6
b7C

[redacted]
Los Angeles, Ca., 90024

13 October, 1978.

Benjamin R. Civiletti
Deputy Attorney General

Attention: Quinlan J. Shea, Jr., Director
Office of Privacy and Information Appeals
Washington, D.C. 20530

PRIVACY CORRECTION REQUEST
of [redacted]

Dear Mr. Shea:

I do not accept as final your determination to deny further disclosure of my records as stated in your letter of September 11, 1978, and am planning further appeal of your ruling.

I further continue to reserve the right to file a rebuttal/correction after I have read all information requested.

In the meantime, however, and on the basis of those records which have been partially disclosed to me in response to my requests of November 4, 1977 and July 3, 1978 and under the authority of the Freedom of Information Act, I have enclosed some corrections.

Nothing in those corrections or in this letter should be inferred to suggest that I have accepted the determination in your letter of September 11, 1978 or that I have found satisfaction in my reasonable requests for information to which I am legally entitled.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

ENCL: 4 corrections: one page each on: 1) 7/28/66 memo to DeLoach, et.a
2) 8/17/66 memo on Disturbance a Precinct
3) on my 6/2/61 arrest in Selma,
4) 6/1/77 memo to Rosen on Bethe

ack
11-16-78
bac

157-387-50X

ENCLOSURE

correction submitted by [redacted] 10/13/78 b6 b7C

In the July 28, 1966 Memo to Mr. DeLoach et. al.:

Page one--
1st Paragraph: 1.) Southeast Neighborhood House is not now nor was it ever located at 3310 18th Street, Southeast (in Washington, D.C.). That address may have been one of its many program out-posts.

3rd Paragraph: 2.) I resigned from the Young Progressives of America in 1949 (having joined it in 1948, shortly after the Progressive Party Convention). When I quit, I took almost half of the local organization out with me, over a protest (which I led) against the domination of the national office in policies which I felt should be determined by members of the local chapter.

Page three--
5th Paragraph: 3.) In 1963, I could hardly be characterized as a "relatively new membe of CORE"; I had been affiliated with CORE in Chicago since the earl 1950's and my home at [redacted] had been a CORE headq

Page four--
3rd Paragraph: 4.) I never lived at 2263 Mt. View Place, Southeast, Washington, D.C. That is the address of Southeast Neighborhood House. The citation with reference to the Building Code was the use of a space by the Neighborhood House for a program outpost without an occupancy permi one which it was found was the responsibility of the lessor, not th the lessee (which was the agency, not me).

4th Paragraph: 5.) I have never been delinquent in the payment of rent, and since Febr 1955 I have continuously been a homeowner, not a renter. One September 7, 1962, I was residing in [redacted]

The debt referred to was initiated by [redacted] as a l from the Hyde Park Co-op Federal Credit Union. I had agreed to be a signer on an earlier loan which [redacted] had made, and on which he made several payments. He then negotiated a new loan for which I was not a co-signer. Apparently the Credit Union was unable to collect sum due from [redacted] and so sought judgment in a Chicago court, al I was neither present nor informed of it until later. When informe made many efforts to find [redacted] through his parents in [redacted] When he did not pay the debt due, even though I had not bee co-signer on the loan in question and could have contested the matt felt the moral obligation to the credit union and paid them the tot directly. My payment to the Hyde Park Co-op Federal Credit Union i Chicago was not recorded by the attorney they had engaged to repres them in Washington, D.C. It was not until a couple of years later, Senator Robert Byrd (Dem., W. Va.) denounced me on the floor of the Senate as being one who fled a debt in Chicago, that I learned that was such a record. I had that record corrected shortly later.

correction submitted by [redacted] 10/13/78 b6 b7C

In the August 17, 1966 Memo entitled

DISTURBANCE AT 11th PRECINCT, etc.....

I do not believe that I was present at the meeting discussed.

I know that [redacted] was never a member of my staff.

I am certain that I never said or would have said "that it was not necessary to have adults on the investigative committee and that the investigatio could be handled completely by teenagers."

At the time of the disturbance reported on the second page of this memo, I was at the [redacted] We heard of the incident the next morning on the radio.

on page 4 of a supporting document to this memorandum, there is another reference to the debt which was allegedly unpaid in May , 1966. That was not true; the debt had been paid and the matter is discussed in full in a correction to the July 28, 1966 Memo to Mr. DeLoach, et. al. (page 4, paragraph 4).

on page 5, correct the "relatively new member of CORE'; I had belonged to CORE for about 10 years by then.

also correct birthdate to [redacted]

on page 7, 5th paragraph indicates that I was a member of the YPA in the summer quarter of 1950. That is not true. I had quit the YPA in 1949. I was not even at the University of Chicago in the summer quarter of 1950.

on page 8, the allegation that my name was on a list of the Young Socialist League should note that it was unknown to me. Similarly, the claim that my name was mentioned at a meeting of the Independent Socialist League shoul note that it was unknown to me until receipt of this file from the F.B.I.

[redacted]

correction submitted by [redacted] 10/13/78 b6 b7C

Several corrections with respect to my arrest in Selma, Alabama on June 2 1961:

In August 2 Memorandum to Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall: on page one there is the alleged denial that I was a Freedom Rider. This is patently untrue. I was identified by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in their advisory communique to the FBI as the leader of the group of Freedom Riders on that bus. When Sherrif Clark boarded the bus in Selma, he came directly to me and made the arrest, soliciting complaints from other passengers AFTER he made the arrest; Mrs. J.S. Thomas never confronted me with a complaint. Some woman was taken off the bus and was chauffered to the Judge in a separate Police car while the bus waited for her. I was advised by those I brought as witnesses to my early efforts at a trial that the woman was returned to the bus shortly later and it went on. I did occupy the seat next to he for a short while and she NEVER had her leg on that seat. I subsequent yielded my seat to an elderly Black woman who was standing in the aisle. It was after that that we arrived in Selma and I was arrested.

I was held on $1500 bond for each of two charges (total of $3,000.) pending an August 3 trial (i.e.,for two months!) but SCLC paid for a bai bond to get me out and save my life. I never ate breakfast and the only time I saw [redacted] after my arrest was when he encouraged the other wh prisoners to beat me. My beating WAS reported to the FBI--by me persona and by my lawyers [redacted] and my wounds were p examined by Rev. Ralph David Abernathy in whose home I was hospitalized Montgomery, Alabama) until I could be flown North. Since white Doctors not and Black Doctors could not aid me, I was flown to [redacted] hos in Chicago where I recuperated. [redacted]

b6
b7C

correction submitted by [redacted] 10/13/78

The June 1, 1967 Memorandum to Mr. Rosen from [redacted]
subject: BETHESDA CLUB....

I absolutely never:
phoned the Bureau about any bar
attended the Bethesda Club
or called the Bethesda Police about anything!

The first I knew anything about this alleged incident was upon encountering it in my FBI file on June 28, 1978.

I am certain that I had not yet been to the Rive Gauche Restaurant--it was not until years later that I could have afforded it!

The entire incident is unknown to me except for this file; I certainly was not the person who made the alleged call!

157-313-53

b6
b7C

November 16, 1978

[redacted]

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Los Angeles, California 90024

Dear [redacted]

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Reference is made to your letter dated October 13, 1978.

Please be advised that information maintained in the FBI central records system, to the extent it is subject to exemption pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a (j) and (k), is exempt from the correction and amendment provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. However, it is the policy of this bureau to consider each such request on an individual basis in order to reach an equitable determination consistent with the best interests of both the individual and the Government.

The enclosure you furnished will be made a matter of official record so that any future reader of our file will have benefit of your observations.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted] CREIGHT DE-34 J-33

157-387-50X1

Allen H. McCreight, Chief
Freedom of Information-
Privacy Acts Branch
Records Management Division

NOT RECORDED
APR 11 1979

MAILED 7
NOV 16 1978
FBI

NOTE: Correspondent is identical to [redacted] and numerous see-references. Believe that making his observations submitted a matter of record the most equitable way of handling this request. Some of the references are apparently still under discussion.

sjm:bac (4)

bac KMB/SM

[redacted]

6987

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep. AD Adm. ____
Dep. AD Inv. ____
Asst. Dir.:
Adm. Servs. ____
Crim. Inv. ____
Ident. ____
Intell. ____
Laboratory ____
Legal Coun. ____
Plan. & Insp. ____
Rec. Mgmt. ____
Tech. Servs. ____
Training ____
Public Affs. Off. ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director's Sec'y ____

APR 12 1979

MAIL ROOM

ORIGINAL FILED IN 190-10909-19

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6-5-61

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

On 6-5-61 SA at the Jackson, Mississippi, Resident Agency, furnished the following totals regarding freedom riders jailed, Jackson, Mississippi.

Total arrested	65
Total who made bond	17
Total paying fine	1
Total remaining in custody	47

Those who made bond are:

The individual who paid his fine is

It is noted that eight of those on the first Trailways bus, 5-24-61, have made bond, eight on the second Trailways bus, 5-24-61, have made bond and one on the bus, 5-28-61, has made bond. In addition, paid his fine.

JAC:vjh
(5)

REC-44

157-387-51

9 JUN 8 1961

EX-108

62 JUN 15 1961

CONFIDENTIAL

b6
b7C

The Attorney General

June 3, 1961

Director, FBI

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC

FREEDOM RIDES 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

In connection with the hearing at Montgomery, Alabama, Federal Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., on June 2, 1961, issued a preliminary injunction against the following defendants:

U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.;
Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.;
[redacted]
Robert M. Shelton;
[redacted]
Lester D. Sullivan, Commissioner of Public Safety, Montgomery, Alabama; and
Goodwin J. Leppenhal, Chief of Police, Montgomery, Alabama.

Judge Johnson also issued a temporary restraining order against the following:

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 6/9/00 #4328602

Congress of Racial Equality
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Montgomery County Jail Council
Student Nashville Nonviolent Movement, an unincorporated association,
F. L. Shuttlesworth
Martin Luther King, Jr.
[redacted]
Ralph D. Abernathy, and
[redacted]

157-387-

NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 12 1961

19 JUN 8 1961

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME
DATE 6-8-61
BY

The order temporarily restrains these groups and individuals and all persons acting in concert with them from sponsoring, financing, assisting or encouraging any individual or group of individuals in traveling in interstate commerce.

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
McGuire
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. DeLoach
MJCT:ers (16)

62 JUN 14 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

See note on page 4.

See memo Rosen to Belmont 6/3/61, captioned "FREEBUS," FCW:jam.

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 157-373-53

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through or in Alabama for the purpose of testing the state or local laws as those laws relate to racial segregation and from committing any act designed to cause violence upon passengers in interstate commerce or otherwise interfering with the free movement of interstate commerce in the transportation of bona fide interstate passengers in and through the State of Alabama. Judge Johnson set the date for the hearing on the temporary restraining order for June 12, 1961.

Two groups of freedom riders traveled by Trailways bus from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi, according to plan on June 3, 1961. Both groups tested the bus terminal facilities at Montgomery prior to their departure but there were no incidents or arrests. The first group consisted of four Negroes and three whites departing from Montgomery, Alabama, 7:35 a. m., and upon their arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, six members of the group tested the bus terminal facilities. They were promptly arrested and charged with breach of the peace. The seventh member reportedly did not test the facilities because he had to return to his home for an emergency. The six who were arrested are in jail and trial has been set for 9:00 p. m. on June 5, 1961.

The second group consisting of five Negroes and three whites departed Montgomery, Alabama, at 11:30 a. m., June 2, 1961, which was subsequent to the time of the issuance of the temporary restraining order. The information concerning the departure of this group was furnished to the U. S. Marshal who in turn made the information available to Judge Johnson. Judge Johnson requested no action in connection with this group. Upon their arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, seven members of the second group were arrested when they tested the facilities of the bus terminal. The eighth member, [redacted] white, had been removed from the bus at Selma, Alabama, and arrested by Dallas County authorities after an elderly white female passenger on the bus swore out a warrant charging him with breach of the peace and assault. The trial date for the second group has not yet been set.

[redacted] at Virginia Union University, advised on June 2, 1961, [redacted] a group of five Negro students of the University who plan to go to Jackson, Mississippi, as freedom

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b7C

The Attorney General

riders on June 5, 1961. They intend to stop in Atlanta, Georgia, to coordinate plans with [redacted] of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

Sources at Cornell University have not confirmed information previously received that members of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity were planning to travel to New Orleans to serve as freedom riders. These sources now state that no members of the Fraternity have been recruited for this purpose.

At a meeting of the Cornell Committee Against Segregation held on June 2, 1961, mention was made that a group had left from one fraternity but neither the participants nor the fraternity was further identified. One of the speakers at this meeting was [redacted] a freedom rider who was arrested at Jackson, Mississippi, on May 30, 1961, and who was released after paying his fine. At the meeting [redacted] allegedly described Louisiana and Mississippi as essentially police states and he accused the New Orleans Police Department of having a canine corps of dogs trained to attack freedom riders and Negroes. He also alleged that telephones of members of the Congress of Racial Equality are tapped by the New Orleans Police Department which turns over information received to the White Citizens Council. Speakers at the meeting encouraged freedom riders to go South in groups and it was reported that efforts are now being made to recruit white females as freedom riders.

It has been reported that a freedom rally will be held at the Mount Olivet Baptist Church in New York City at 8:30 p.m., June 5, 1961. The purpose of the rally is to protest the jailing of freedom riders and to secure Federal protection for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Speakers reportedly will include Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., Reverend Ralph Abernathy and Reverend F. L. Shuttlesworth. Sponsors of the rally are reported to be the Social Action Commission of the Empire State Baptist Convention and the New York Division of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

With respect to Reverend Shuttlesworth, information has been received that he has conditionally accepted a church at [redacted]

The Attorney General

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Communist Party, USA, interest in the freedom ride movement continues to be high. A confidential source has advised that a large city wide Communist Party, USA, meeting was held May 31, 1961, in New York City at which Gus Hall, General Secretary of the Communist Party, USA, urged organized support of the freedom riders. He stressed the need for increasing the number and size of protests and the writing of letters and sending of telegrams to the President and the Attorney General asking them to fulfill their election promises on civil rights.

Sheriff J. Robert Gilfoy, Hinds County, Jackson, Mississippi, has advised that the Hinds County Board of Supervisors unanimously reinstated Max Thomas, Superintendent of the Hinds County Penal Farm, after receiving a report of the investigation conducted by Sheriff Gilfoy. Thomas is the individual who allegedly mistreated two of the freedom riders for failing to answer questions properly. Sheriff Gilfoy advised the Board that his findings were to the effect that [redacted], one of the victims, was not hit as claimed but instead received a small laceration on the head in a scuffle with Thomas while Thomas was defending himself. Gilfoy stated his findings were based on statements taken from Thomas, three guards, a jailer and ten white and Negro inmates chosen at random.

It is reported that the freedom riders in jail at Jackson, Mississippi, are continuing their hunger strike.

Further pertinent developments in this matter will be promptly brought to the attention of the Department.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

NOTE: This memo is classified "~~Confidential~~" because exposure of source would be prejudicial to the defense of the nation.

9:40 PM

6/5/61

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 5 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-5-61 7-02 PM CST TJB

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 1-P

FREEBUS. [redacted] CORE, NEW ORLEANS, ADVISED TODAY GROUP OF FIVE WHITE MEN AND THREE NEGROES DEPARTING NEW ORLEANS SIX FIFTEEN AM JUNE SIXTH NEXT VIA TRAILWAYS ENROUTE JACKSON, MISS. NO TESTING OF PUBLIC FACILITIES WILL BE MADE UNTIL ARRIVAL JACKSON, IF NOT JAILED WILL RETURN NEW ORLEANS BY BUS. LOCAL AUTHORITIES NEW ORLEANS AND JACKSON ADVISED AS WELL AS LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI STATE POLICE.

END AND ACK PLS.

9-02 PM OK FBI WA WS

157-387-52

REC-86 EX-113

JUN 8 1961

FBI

6-Room

55 JUN 15

cc [redacted]

157-387- 53 IN THIS FILE SKIPPED DURING SERIALIZATION.
54
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The Attorney General

CONFIDENTIAL

June 1, 1961

Director, FBI

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Classified by 42 FBI/cw
Declassify on: OADR

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

In connection with the injunction hearing at Montgomery, Alabama, the proceedings were dismissed on May 31, 1961, with regard to the following defendants only:

Federated Klans

[redacted]

Eugene Connor, Birmingham, Alabama, Police Commissioner
Jamie Moore, Birmingham Chief of Police

The hearing was continued with regard to the other defendants including L. B. Sullivan, Montgomery Commissioner of Public Affairs, and G. J. Duppenthal, Montgomery Chief of Police.

A new group of approximately eight freedom riders may travel from Atlanta, Georgia, to Montgomery, Alabama, and then to Jackson, Mississippi, on June 1, 1961. It has been indicated that they may use a Greyhound bus and that they may arrive in Jackson between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., on June 1st, 1961.

Nine freedom riders had planned to travel from Nashville, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi, on June 1, 1961; however, five of the group have decided not to go and the trip may be canceled.

[redacted] the nonviolent freedom ride movement in Nashville, advised on May 31, 1961, that there is a possibility that no additional freedom rides will originate at Nashville; however, [redacted] a precinct worker for the Congress of Racial Equality, advised on May 31, 1961, that beginning on the evening of June 1, 1961, all freedom rides will originate at Nashville and that [redacted] is returning to Nashville from Atlanta, Georgia.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

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W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM
JUN 1 11 13 AM '61
FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 AT/ZW ON 2-19-98 3907282

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

MAILED 2
JUN - 1 1961
COMM-FBI

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XEROX
JUN 12 1961

JUN 5 1961

COPY

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The Attorney General

CONFIDENTIAL

Sources at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, have stated that [redacted] and Paul S. Green were among five Cornell students who drove to New Orleans, Louisiana, on May 27, 1961. In New Orleans they attended a Congress of Racial Equality workshop after which Green and three other students accompanied a group of freedom riders to Jackson, Mississippi, where they were arrested on May 30, 1961.

[redacted] returned to Cornell from New Orleans to instruct other students who are volunteering as freedom riders. Recruitment efforts are being handled by the Cornell Committee Against Segregation. All volunteers must be prepared to spend 67 days in jail and this has caused many to refrain from volunteering.

The Freedom Walk Committee, an established local antisegregation group at Ithaca, is reportedly conducting a fund drive to raise money for the fines and legal expenses of the arrested freedom riders.

We have also been informed that on June 1, 1961, nine members of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity are leaving Cornell for New Orleans to attend a Congress of Racial Equality workshop and then to serve as freedom riders. Other groups of Cornell students are scheduled to travel to New Orleans on June 3 and June 12, 1961. Approximately 30 Cornell students have indicated a desire to serve as freedom riders.

Paul S. Green, a student from Cornell who is in jail at Jackson, Mississippi, has put out a news story to the effect that the freedom riders are going on a hunger strike which will continue until there is an injunction against the people of Jackson. Green allegedly has also been in touch with students at Cornell and has requested that telegrams be sent to the Attorney General in this regard. The Jackson police have stated that all of the freedom riders ate dinner on May 31, 1961.

[redacted] who was arrested with the first group of freedom riders in Jackson on [redacted] wrote

CONFIDENTIAL

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The Attorney General

a letter on May 31, 1961, which the jail censor passed without change. In this letter [redacted] stated he is being held in solitary confinement and that his cell is dark during the day but that he is under a glaring light at night.

The Jackson police have advised that [redacted] has a private cell which was given to him upon his own request. The cell has a window and a street light shines through the window at night.

[redacted] of the Congress of Racial Equality, stated on May 31, 1961, that no freedom rides sponsored by the Congress of Racial Equality would be leaving the New York City area in the next several days. He said the only contemplated freedom rides of which he is aware are one which will leave Montgomery, Alabama, for Jackson, Mississippi, on June 3, 1961, and one which will leave New Orleans, Louisiana, for Jackson on either June 2, June 3, or June 4, 1961.

Medgar Evers, Field Secretary for Mississippi National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), has stated that he has received a telegram from NAACP headquarters in New York and it urges Negroes to use transportation facilities on an integrated basis during the normal course of travel. Evers also advised that the NAACP definitely intends to push Negro use of beaches on the Mississippi Gulf Coast this summer.

Phil Bart, National Organizational Secretary, Communist Party, USA (CPUSA), has addressed a letter to all National Committee members of the CPUSA. This letter deals with the freedom rides and alleges that southern states have rebelled against the Federal Government. It states that the CPUSA should seek to play a threefold role; it should seek to unify all "antisegregation" and "antirebellion population forces in mass action"; it should speak out and act in its own name; and it should fight to put forward its own "perspective" for defending the Negro people and ending the Jim Crow system.

Enclosed with Bart's letter was a copy of an article to appear in "Political Affairs" for June, 1961. The article

discusses the freedom rides and is critical of the President for allegedly failing to take sufficiently prompt and vigorous action. It states that "the U. S. Army - with fully integrated units - could and should restore the supremacy of United States law in Alabama and wherever it is spat upon." "Political Affairs" is a monthly publication of the CPUSA. (U)

Further pertinent developments in this matter will be promptly brought to the attention of the Department.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: 6/2/61

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC

SYNOPSIS

A witness at injunction hearing 6/1/61 testified that on 5/20/61 he saw an FBI Agent and some NBC men on a truck. Actually, an Agent was driving a truck while another Agent was riding on the truck to take photographs.

The [redacted] has advised that if [redacted] who previously testified, was in a position to observe the activity on 5/20/61 he was "goofing off" because his duties required his presence elsewhere.

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Twenty-eight male freedom riders at Jackson refused breakfast 6/1/61 and allegedly will fast indefinitely to impress the Attorney General with the deplorable situation in the South.

[redacted] freedom rider who was allegedly mistreated at Hinds County Penal Farm on 5/29/61, has paid [redacted] fine and been released.

Freedom riders assembled in Montgomery 6/1/61 without incident and plan to proceed to Jackson in two groups at 7:00 a.m., CST, and 11:30 a.m., CST, 6/2/61. They will test the facilities at the bus station in Montgomery before leaving.

[redacted] states he is heading a committee being established to coordinate freedom riders and will advise the Atlanta Office of all organized freedom rides.

[redacted] convicted at Birmingham 6/1/61 on two counts of inciting a breach of the peace. Sentenced to 90 days and fined $500 on each count and released on $2,000 bond.

Robert Shelton, Imperial Wizard, Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., allegedly has documentary proof that AFL-CIO contributed $5,000 towards CORE freedom rides.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

157-373-NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 12 1961

12 JUN 5 1961

62 JUN 13 1961
(9)

6 - [illegible]
157-373

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12-21-10 BY SP4 [illegible]

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: FREEDOM

[redacted] has remarked that he believes the FBI has good informant coverage in the Birmingham area. This comment was critical.

After the White Youth for Segregation Rally held by the National States Rights Party [redacted] went to a bar and grill.

Informant states [redacted] were at Reverend Abernathy's church when violence erupted 5/21/61. [redacted] took tear gas bombs to the church and [redacted] turned over an automobile in the vicinity of the church.

[redacted] had been paid for racial violence and the sum of [redacted] was mentioned. [redacted]

Informant gained the impression [redacted] to engage in the violence at the Montgomery bus station [redacted] and that [redacted] received a large sum of money.

Freedom rides being organized at Richmond, Virginia, to depart for Alabama and Mississippi on 6/3/61 and 6/5/61.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the Attorney General.

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b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

DETAILS

At the injunction hearing on 6/1/61, L. B. Sullivan, Commissioner of Public Affairs for Montgomery, Alabama, was asked if he had any personal knowledge concerning photographs taken by the FBI of the incident at Montgomery bus station 5/20/61. Sullivan testified that he did not have any personal knowledge of this matter.

[redacted] an investigator for the State of Mississippi, testified that he followed the bus into Montgomery on 5/20/61, observed no activity at the bus station and drove to another area to park his car. Upon returning to the bus station he found there had been considerable fighting.

[redacted] also testified that as he was proceeding to the bus station after parking his car, he observed an FBI Agent on a truck and also saw some NBC men on the truck. [redacted] said he did not know what the Agent was doing on the truck. It should be noted that SA [redacted] was driving a truck in the area and that SA [redacted] was riding on the truck in order to take photographs.

With regard to [redacted] who previously testified at the injunction hearing and who allegedly was threatened after his testimony, the [redacted] has advised that if [redacted] was in a position to observe any of the activity on 5/20/61, as he testified, then he was "goofing off" because he should have been elsewhere in the performance of his duties. [redacted] is checking into this.

Sheriff J. R. Gilfoy at Jackson, Mississippi, received a letter signed [redacted] For the Freedom Riders." The letter stated that beginning 6/1/61 the freedom riders who are in jail at Jackson would enter upon a fast for an indefinite period. It was also stated that the freedom riders were appreciative of the courtesy exhibited by the sheriff and that the fast was not directed against any person but was intended to remind the freedom riders of their "task of reconciliation."

Sheriff Gilfoy advised that 28 of the male freedom riders refused breakfast on 6/1/61 but the 7 women freedom riders all ate breakfast and he believed that the women may not have been aware of the fast.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

The Jackson Police were advised by the freedom riders that they were not protesting the quality of the food but their fast was motivated by a desire to impress the Attorney General with the deplorable situation in the South.

[redacted] one of the two freedom riders allegedly mistreated at the Hinds County Penal Farm on 5/29/61, has paid [redacted] fine and has proceeded to New Orleans.

On 6/1/61 freedom riders assembled in Montgomery, having come from Nashville, Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia, without incident. Some of them were spending the night at the home of Reverend Abernathy and it was thought that others were spending the night at the home of [redacted] in Montgomery. They did not test the facilities upon arriving in Montgomery and they passed through the station unobtrusively and unnoticed.

The freedom riders who arrived in Montgomery on 6/1/61 plan to proceed to Jackson, Mississippi, on 6/2/61. One group consisting of four Negroes and three whites plans to leave Montgomery for Jackson, Mississippi, by Trailways Bus at 7:00 a.m., Central Standard Time, 6/2/61. A second group also consisting of four Negroes and three whites plans to leave Montgomery for Jackson by Trailways Bus at 11:30 a.m., Central Standard Time. Both groups have stated they plan to test the facilities at Montgomery before leaving and that they plan to test the facilities at Jackson upon their arrival.

[redacted] of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, advised on 6/1/61 that he is heading a committee which is being established to coordinate freedom riders throughout the South. [redacted] will be in charge of all publicity but no press releases will be made at this time due to the instability of law enforcement in Alabama. [redacted] will advise the Atlanta Office of all organized freedom rides.

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth was convicted on June 1, 1961, at Birmingham of two counts of inciting a breach of the peace. This arose out of his association with freedom riders. Shuttlesworth was sentenced to serve 90 days and was fined $500 on each of the two counts. Shuttlesworth was released 6/1/61 on $1,000 bond on each count or a total bond of $2,000. He denied at his trial that he had caused CORE members to visit Birmingham.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Information has been received that on 5/31/61 the Warrior Klavern of the Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., held a meeting at which [redacted] stated that Robert Shelton, Imperial Wizard, has documentary proof that the AFL-CIO contributed $5,000 to the Congress of Racial Equality to assist in the recent campaign to break segregation in interstate travel.

[redacted] of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice has remarked that he believes the FBI has good informant coverage in the Birmingham area.

Additional information has been received concerning the White Youth for Segregation Rally held by the National States Rights Party on 5/29/61. Informants have advised that Jesse B. Stoner appeared to be the principal organizer and his chief assistants appeared to be Emory Burke, [redacted]

After the above meeting a group of [redacted] persons led by [redacted] went to a bar and grill in downtown Montgomery, [redacted] indicated that [redacted] were at Reverend Abernathy's church when a violent mob gathered there on [redacted] took tear gas bombs to the church. [redacted] turned over an automobile in the vicinity of the church and it was alleged that [redacted]

The informant overheard [redacted] had been paid for participating in racial violence at Montgomery. The amount of [redacted] was mentioned [redacted] The informant gained the impression [redacted] to engage in the violence at the Montgomery bus station on [redacted] and that [redacted] had received a large sum of money for making such arrangements.

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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Information has been received indicating that college students may engage in freedom rides to Alabama and Mississippi from Richmond, Virginia. [redacted] who is organizing these rides, advised on 6/2/61 that four or five individuals plan to leave Richmond by Trailways Bus on 6/3/61. The time of departure and the identity of the group was not known. [redacted] also stated that a second group is scheduled to leave Richmond on 6/5/61 but the details of this trip are not yet known. [redacted] stated that he will keep the Richmond Office advised concerning details of freedom rides originating in Richmond.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/1/61

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.
FREEBUS

Mr. Rosen advised at 7:47 p.m., 6/1/61, that the two buses in which the freedom riders from Nashville, Tennessee, were passengers and which left Birmingham at 3:00 p.m. today arrived in Montgomery at 5:45 p.m., CST. He stated they could not tell whether there were four or six freedom riders inasmuch as the riders did not attempt to test the white facilities. There were no incidents at the bus terminal and no arrests were made.

At 9:36 p.m. Mr. Rosen advised that the bus containing the freedom riders from Atlanta, Georgia, arrived in Montgomery, Alabama at 7:30 p.m., CST. He said that again the riders did not attempt to test the white facilities at the bus terminal. There were no incidents and no arrests.

In each instance the area of the bus terminal was well patrolled by local and county officers and the local authorities had things well under control.

He stated that he understands that some of the freedom riders may attempt to test the white facilities at the bus terminal when they leave Montgomery tomorrow morning to go to Jackson, Mississippi. He will know whether the riders take any bus other than the 11:30 a.m., CST, bus. The local authorities, of course, will be notified of any pertinent information received by us.

With regard to [redacted] the driver of the U. S. mail truck in Montgomery who testified in the hearings in Montgomery and who stated yesterday that he had been threatened, there have been no further developments. Mr. Rosen stated, however, that the Post Office Department is a little concerned about [redacted] in this matter because he stated that if he was in a position to observe any of the activity at the area of the Post Office on 5/20/61, he was "goofing off" because he should have been elsewhere at the time performing his duties. The Post Office Department is checking into this.

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b7C

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 157-373-5

JCT:dsj
(3)

157-387-
NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 12 1961

17 JUN 5 1961

62 JUN 13 1961

157-373

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 2, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Mr. Rosen called from Montgomery, Alabama, and advised that Federal Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., had issued a preliminary injunction against the defendants named hereinafter:

U. S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.;
Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.;
[redacted] U. S. Klans;
Robert M. Shelton, leader, Alabama Knights;
[redacted] both of whom engaged in violence at Montgomery, Alabama;
Lester B. Sullivan, Commissioner of Public Safety, Montgomery; and
Goodwin J. Ruppenthal, Chief of Police, Montgomery.

This preliminary injunction enjoins these groups and individuals from conspiring to interfere with or committing acts of violence upon or threatening individuals in the free movement of interstate commerce.

Judge Johnson also ordered a temporary restraining order against the following:

Congress of Racial Equality
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Montgomery County Jail Council
Student Nashville Nonviolent Movement, an unincorporated association;
F. L. Shuttlesworth
Martin Luther King, Jr.
[redacted]
Reverend Ralph D. Abernathy
[redacted] and officers, members, agents, employees and all acting in concert with them to cease their activities in freedom rides and similar activities. Judge Johnson set the date for the hearing on the temporary restraining order for 6/12/61. Judge Johnson commented that if his orders were violated there would be klansmen, policemen, city officials, and Negro preachers serving time in a Federal penitentiary.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/23/00 BY [redacted] #428602

157-387

NOT RECORDED
145 JUN 12 1961

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

JRM:ers (9)

1 XEROX
JUN 12 1961

62 JUN 13 1961

10 JUN 15 1961

6 - FBI

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 157-373-D

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re: FREEBUS

The restraining order provides that the above-named individuals and organizations are temporarily restrained from (a) sponsoring, financing, assisting, or encouraging any individual or group of individuals in traveling in interstate commerce through or in Alabama for the purpose of testing the state or local laws as those laws relate to racial segregation; (b) committing any act that is designed to cause violence upon, or threats toward any passengers in interstate commerce in and through Alabama; and (c) otherwise obstructing, impeding, or interfering with the free movement of interstate commerce -- in the transportation of bona fide interstate passengers in and through the State of Alabama.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: 5/26/61

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

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SAC [redacted] of the New Orleans Office has furnished the following information:

A confidential informant of the New Orleans Office who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that a meeting of the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan was held last night at Bossier City, Louisiana. Purpose of the meeting, which was attended by 29 members, was to formulate plans for action on the part of the Klan in the event freedom riders travel to Shreveport, Louisiana.

[redacted] the Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Bossier City, stated that he would have approximately one hour advance notice if freedom riders came to Shreveport. [redacted] the Klan who would rendezvous in Bossier City, a suburb of Shreveport, and then proceed to the bus station at Shreveport.

At the bus station in Shreveport four Klan members would be stationed at each of the four doors to the station and nine members would be stationed inside the bus depot. Should the freedom riders attempt to enter the white waiting rooms, the Klansmen at the doors would lock arms and bar the way into the station. In the event the freedom riders are able to get through the Klansmen on the doors, the nine Klansmen stationed inside would immediately take action against the freedom riders. Four of the nine Klansmen inside the station are to be armed with spray guns containing oil that burns or mustard gas which is to be sprayed upon the freedom riders.

Klansmen are not to be armed or to carry any identification other than their names and addresses and each Klansmen is to have a citizens council card concealed on his person.

REC- 23 157-387-58

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

EX-113

6 JUN 8 1961

JGK:dsj
(9)

62 JUN 13 1961

COPY TO MR TOLSON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12-19-2012 BY SP4 [illegible]

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Memorandum for Mr. Parsons
Re: Freebus

The individual Klansman who is to be in charge of the group at the station is to be [redacted] Louisiana.

According to [redacted] the Klan will have a photographer available in the station as well as an attorney to represent any Klansmen who might be arrested.

The informat stated that any action by Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan will be restricted to Shreveport, Louisiana, and there is no indication that the members will take action elsewhere in the State of Louisiana. or in Mississippi.

ACTION TAKEN:

SAC Bromwell was instructed to furnish the above information to Assistant Director Rosen in Montgomery, Alabama, and to the Memphis Office. He was further instructed to furnish the information to appropriate state authorities as well as local authorities at Bossier City and Shreveport, Louisiana. He was cautioned to furnish the information to such authorities in such a manner as to afford full protection to the informant.

CONFIDENTIAL

The Attorney General

June 6, 1961

Director, FBI

Freedom Riders - Misc

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

JUN 5 1 20 PM '61
READING ROOM
B I

Sheriff James C. Clark of Dallas County, Alabama, has furnished the following additional details regarding the arrest of [redacted] a white male who was taken into custody at Selma, Alabama, on June 2, 1961, while he was traveling on a bus with freedom riders who were going from Montgomery, Alabama, to Jackson, Mississippi.

Information received previously indicated that [redacted] was a freedom rider; however, he has denied this to the Sheriff's Office and has stated that he was merely an observer.

[redacted] was arrested upon the complaint of Mrs. J. C. Thomas, an elderly white woman, on charges of assault and disturbing the peace. Mrs. Thomas allegedly found it necessary to ride with one leg on the seat. [redacted] reportedly tried to take this seat on two occasions and, in so doing, he sat on her leg. Upon his arrest [redacted] was confined in the Dallas County Jail in lieu of $1500 bond but subsequently obtained his release. We have been informed that [redacted] told a representative of the Associated Press that while he was in jail the sheriff arranged to have him beaten. [redacted] had not made this allegation to the FBI nor is he known to have made such an allegation to anyone other than the newspaperman. Sheriff Clark has stated that he saw [redacted] at breakfast on June 3, 1961, at which time [redacted] made no such complaint nor did he show any signs of beating. REC- 23 157-3827-59

EX-113

The press has indicated that integration leaders, [redacted] and Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., have stated that the freedom riders will continue into Mississippi by bypass Alabama in accordance with the temporary injunction issued June 2, 1961, by U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., at Montgomery, Alabama.

The press has also quoted [redacted] of New York, an organizer for the Congress of Racial Equality, as stating that freedom rides will continue on the highways and on trains; and that there will also be "fly-ins" into Jackson, Mississippi, within the next week.

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
MAIL ROOM [ ] TELETYPE UNIT [ ]

1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Sullivan

JUN 12 1961

WLM:ers (16)

See note, page 4.

DECLASSIFIED BY 9110 ON 4/30/02 #49802

MAILED 2 JUN - 5 1961 COMM-FBI

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 157-3827-3

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[redacted]

The Attorney General

Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth appeared in Recorder's Court in Birmingham, Alabama, on the night of June 2, 1961. He was convicted of "refusing to obey the lawful command of a police officer" and "interfering with an officer in line of duty" after Birmingham Police Chief Jamie Moore testified that he had interfered with the process of placing freedom riders into patrol wagons when they were taken into protective custody on May 17, 1961. Reverend Shuttlesworth was fined $250 plus costs and was sentenced to serve 360 days in jail. This has been appealed.

After the witnesses for the prosecution testified in Recorder's Court, Judge William Conway ordered Reverend Shuttlesworth to take the stand and to testify as to the conduct that may be expected of him in the future. Judge Conway specifically inquired as to whether Reverend Shuttlesworth intended to continue to violate city ordinances. Reverend Shuttlesworth declined to answer and invoked the Fifth Amendment whereupon the Judge ruled that the Fifth Amendment is not applicable in Recorder's Court and Reverend Shuttlesworth was held in contempt. He was sentenced to spend 24 hours in jail and was fined $10. He has served this jail sentence.

In addition to the above sentences, Reverend Shuttlesworth was placed under a $5000 peace bond pursuant to the provisions of 1958 Birmingham General City Code. This code section states in effect that upon conviction if there is reason to believe that the individual intends to commit breach of the peace he may be required to post a bond to insure that he will keep the peace for a period of up to 12 months.

[redacted] who was co-counsel for the defense at the first trial of freedom riders in Jackson, Mississippi, has directed a letter to J. A. Travis, City Attorney in Jackson; Municipal Court Judge James L. Spencer of Jackson; and Chief of Detectives M. D. Pierce of Jackson in which he states his appreciation for the courtesies shown to him while he was in Jackson.

On June 4, 1961, six Negroes were arrested at the Municipal Zoo in Jackson, Mississippi, when they failed to obey the orders of a police officer to move on. They were sitting on benches which are not designated for either race but which Negroes do not customarily use. All were released

[redacted]

The Attorney General

without charges being filed after they were questioned at police headquarters. The Jackson Police have advised that the group acted under the direction of Medgar Evers, local field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

A group of six or eight Negroes, students from Florida A and M College, reportedly left Tallahassee, Florida, by Greyhound bus on the evening of June 2, 1961. They left without incident although one of them sat in the white waiting room at Tallahassee. When the group arrived in Jacksonville, Florida, they entered the white restaurant in the Greyhound terminal and were served without incident. The Jacksonville Police reportedly interviewed the Negroes and were told that they were complying with a request of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to the effect that students returning to their homes from college should test segregated facilities.

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Information has been received that on June 2, 1961, five groups of Negroes, who appeared to be students, attempted to integrate white lunch counters at five stores in downtown Macon, Georgia. The students reportedly departed peaceably when they were refused service and the lunch counters were closed. The only incident occurred when [redacted] Negro, sat at a lunch counter beside Floyd Prince, a 67-year-old white man. Prince struck [redacted] about the head and they both departed. They were both subsequently arrested by the Macon Police and were charged with disorderly conduct.

Confidential sources in Chicago have advised that the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights is sponsoring a freedom riders' rally to be held June 5, 1961. Richard Criley, Executive Secretary and who is reported to be a member of the Communist Party of Illinois, was allegedly sending out announcements to 3500 individuals inviting them to attend the rally and hear talks by some of the freedom riders as well as a discussion of future plans to extend freedom south of "Magnolia Curtain."

Our sources have also stated that the rally to be held in Chicago is co-sponsored by other antidiscrimination organizations including the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

Committee on Racial Equality. In addition to the rally, students from the University of Chicago and Roosevelt University in Chicago are said to have formed an ad hoc committee to demonstrate on behalf of the freedom riders in Chicago on the evening of June 8, 1961. Criley allegedly provided 500 leaflets to be mailed to individuals on the mailing list of the Chicago Fair Play for Cuba Committee. With regard to the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, Phil Bart, a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA, has reportedly stated that the Committee has been captured by the Trotskyites but that the Communist Party, USA, had not given up on its efforts to control the Committee.

A confidential informant has also stated that leaders of the Dixie Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., plan to bomb or burn apartments occupied by Negroes at Cherry and Fourth Streets, Chattanooga, Tennessee. This allegedly will take place some night during the coming week. The Chattanooga Police have been advised.

The Department will be further advised of pertinent developments in this matter.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

NOTE: This is classified ~~"Confidential"~~ in view of the fact that exposure of the informants furnishing information concerning the Chicago Committee to Defend the Bill of Rights, Richard Criley and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee would adversely affect the defense interest of the U. S.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

b6
b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/9/61

FROM : [redacted]

Time of Call: 10:50 p.m.

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SA [redacted] New Orleans, was requested to furnish a teletype this evening to clarify what the disposition was of the five freedom riders arrested at 5:30 a.m. today in Jackson and if any information had been received regarding the eight who were supposed to leave Chicago last evening and arrive in New Orleans at 4:45 p.m. today enroute to Jackson. He will comply.

JLS:dsj
(3)

REC. 11 157-387-60

25 JUN 12 1961

EX 104

[redacted]

50 JUN 16 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/9/61

FROM : [redacted]

Time of call: 4:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SA [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, called to advise that on 6/9/61 [redacted] Clerk, U. S. District Court (USDC), Southern District of Mississippi (SDM), Jackson, advised that at approximately 1:00 p.m., this date, a complaint and a motion for temporary injunction were filed with the Clerk, USDC, SDM, Jackson Division. Plaintiffs named are [redacted] on behalf of themselves and others similarly situated. Plaintiffs are identified in the complaint as adult Negro citizens of the United States, State of Mississippi, presently residing in Jackson, Mississippi.

Defendants named are Joe T. Patterson, Attorney General, State of Mississippi; the City of Jackson; Allen C. Thompson, Mayor, City of Jackson; Douglas L. Lucky, Commissioner, City of Jackson; W. D. Rayfield, Chief of Police, City of Jackson; Continental Southern Lines, Inc.; Southern Greyhound Lines; Illinois Central Railroad; Jackson City Lines; [redacted] Cicero's Restaurant, Jackson Municipal Airport.

Attorneys for plaintiffs are R. Jess Brown, 1105½ Washington Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi; Constance Baker Motley and Thurgood Marshall, both of 10 Columbus Circle, New York 19, New York. "Of counsel" listed as [redacted] According to the complaint, the action is brought to redress deprivation of rights, privileges and immunities secured to plaintiffs by the Constitution and laws of the United States (due process and equal protection clauses of 14th Amendment) and Article 1, Clause 3, the commerce laws, and Title 49, U. S. Code, Section 3 (1) and Section 316(d).

The complaint specifies that this action is brought to enjoin enforcement of certain statutes of the State of Mississippi requiring racial segregation on common carriers, in waiting rooms and rest room facilities used by common carriers, and at the Jackson Municipal Airport.

157-387-61

HEH: aeo
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EX-116

REC-VII

11 JUN 12 1961

57 JUN 16 1961

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: FREEBUS

The motion for temporary injunction requests the court to convene a three-judge court to hear this action and to grant a preliminary and permanent injunction enjoining the defendants from continuing to enforce racial segregation statutes regarding carriers and at the Jackson Municipal Airport.

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157-387-62 IN THIS FILE SKIPPED DURING SERIALIZATION.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 9 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS- MISC.

URGENT 6-9-61 1-13PM CST BC

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-296 3P

FREEBUS. RE PHONE CALL JACKSON RA TO BUREAU JUNE NINE. JACKSON, MISS. PD RECORDS REFLECT FOLLOWING FREEDOM RIDERS ARRESTED ICRR STATION JACKSON, FIVE THIRTYFIVE AM JUNE NINE- [redacted] DAYTON, OHIO, [redacted] FEMALE, BORN [redacted] CLEVELAND, OHIO, [redacted] HAIR, FAIR COMPLEXION, STUDENT OHIO CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE. ADMITS PICKETING XENIA AND DAYTON, OHIO. [redacted] CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, [redacted] MALE, BORN [redacted] KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, [redacted] BROWN EYES, BROWN HAIR, FAIR COMPLEXION, STUDENT CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE, STATES ARRESTED PD CONCORD, INVESTIGATION, AUTO THEFT, [illegible] RELEASE, CLAIMS PARTICIPATED PEAACE WALK NEW YORK CITY,

END PAGE ONE

REC- 23 157-3[illegible] LPI 63

JUN 12 1961

EX 104

6- Hold

50 JUN 14 1961

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PAGE TWO

NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT, MARCH TWO, UN, PEACE WALK BOSTON, MASS., NINETEEN SIXTY, QUAKER, PEACE WITNESS, NEW YORK CITY, REGISTERED [redacted] CHESTNUT HILL, MASS. [redacted] NEW YORK CITY, [redacted] MALE, BORN [redacted] BOSTON, [redacted] HAZEL EYES, BROWN HAIR, FAIR COMPLEXION, STUDENT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. ADMITS PARTICIPATING DEMONSTRATION AGAINS T CIVIL DEFENSE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NINETEEN SIXTYONE AND PICKETING WOOLWORTH, NEW YORK CITY. [redacted] BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, [redacted] FEMALE, BORN [redacted] BROOKLYN, [redacted] BORWN EYES, BLACK HAIR, FAIR COMPLEXION, STUDENT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ADMITS PICKETING WOOLWORTH, NEW YORK CITY, NINETEEN SIXTY. [redacted] ELMIRA, NEW YORK, [redacted] FEMALE, BORN [redacted] NEW YORK CITY, [redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR, LIGHT BROWN COMPLEXION, STUDENT CENTRAL STATE

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

COLLEGE, OHIO, ADMITS PICKETING XENIA, OHIO, NINETEEN SIXTY.
APPEARS WILL POSSIBLY BE TRIED THREE PM TODAY, JACKSON
MUNICIPAL COURT. ALL CHARGED BREACH OF PEACE.
END AND ACK PLS
3-20 PM OK FBI WA BH
TU DISV

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI DATE: 6/9/61

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-0-266)

SUBJECT: ALLEGED CARAVAN OF CARS
EASTBOUND ON HIGHWAY 80;
EL PASO COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF
[redacted]
~~SM-C~~
RACIAL MATTERS

b2
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b7C
b7D

Reference: Bureau telephone call 6/3/61.

For the information of the Bureau, no security informants or confidential sources of information who are members of or have knowledge of the activities of racial or minority groups, Los Angeles, have furnished any information concerning the organization of any groups for the purpose of proceeding to Alabama as "freedom riders."

[redacted] on 6/4/61 advised he had received no information whatsoever concerning the formation of freedom rider groups in the Los Angeles area, and Lt. [redacted] Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office Liaison Detail, on 6/5/61 advised he had received no information whatsoever from any source concerning the formation of such groups.

The "People's World" for Saturday, 6/3/61, on page 2 column 1 published an article which disclosed that efforts were being made in Fresno, California, to organize a group of volunteer freedom riders to go into the Deep South. According to the "People's World" article, the move was being stimulated in Fresno by [redacted] a Fresno attorney [redacted] of the Fresno Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

No further information has been developed concerning his activities in this connection; however, any information developed will be promptly forwarded to the Bureau.

P
(2) - Bureau
1 - Los Angeles

JST:DRU
(3)

EX-116

REC-77 157-387-64

17 JUN 12 1961

62 JUN 22 1961

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 9 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-9-61 5-43 PM CST WLM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI FREEDOM RIDERS- MI

FROM SAC, MOBILE /157-82/

FREEBUS. RE BUREAU CALL TO MOBILE TODAY. MONTGOMERY, ALA. 5732

CITY DIRECTORIES REFLECT THAT [redacted] HAS BEEN AN ATTORNEY IN MONTGOMERY SINCE ABOUT NINETEEN FIFTYONE AND RESIDES AT [redacted] IT IS KNOWN TO AGENTS THAT SINCE ABOUT JUNE ONE INSTANT [redacted] IS IN LAW PARTNERSHIP WITH [redacted] THE RECENTLY RESIGNED AUSA MONTGOMERY, LAW OFFICE IN BELL BLDG. MOBILE INDICES REFLECT ONLY ONE REFERENCE TO [redacted] AS POINTED OUT IN MOBILE LETTER TO BUREAU APRIL FIFTEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY, WHITESELL WAS SPEAKER AT MEETING OF SEGREGATION, INC., WHITLEY HOTEL, MARCH NINETEEN, NINETEEN SIXTY. APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PERSONS ATTENDED THE MEETING. [redacted] WHO RENTED THE ROOM WHERE THE MEETING WAS HELD, IS APPARENTLY IDENTICAL WITH [redacted] WHO WAS IDENTIFIED IN APRIL, NINETEEN SIXTY, AS A MEMBER OF

EX-116 REC-23 157-387-65

NOV 12 1961

END PAGE ONE..

63 JUN 14 1961

R to Belmont memo 6/10/61 jfd

Called [redacted]

PAGE TWO.....

FEDERATED KKK, MONTGOMERY. MOBILE FILES REFLECT NO OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING SEGREGATION, INC., AND NO INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 7-47 PM OK FBI WA JS

TU DISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 9 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-8-61 10-20 PM CST JHJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /~~100-225892~~/ AND SAC-S MOBILE, AND NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, BIRMINGHAM /157-85/ 1P

FREEBUS, RM. RE MEMPHIS TEL TO BUREAU THIS DATE. PAN AMERICAN TRAIN ARRIVED L AND N STATION BIRMINGHAM AT EIGHT FORTY FIVE P.M. FIVE PASSENGERS, BELIEVED IDENTICAL WITH FREEDOM RIDERS/MISC TRAVELLED TO TERMINAL STATION, BY TAXI AND CAUGHT SOUTHERN TRAIN NUMBER FORTY ONE, THE PELICAN. DUE TO ARRIVE JACKSON MISS. FIVE THIRTY A.M. JUNE NINE, NO INCIDENTS BIRMINGHAM. PASSENGERS RODE IN BOTH WHITE AND NEGRO CABS BETWEEN STATIONS. DID NOT TEST ANY SEGREGATION LAWS IN BIRMINGHAM

AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS INFO.

END ACK

WA 12-22 AM OK FBI WA ELR

MMO OK FBI MO MCM

NO OK FBI NO LM

TU DISC

REC-23 157-387-66

EX-105

JUN 12 1961

63 JUN 14 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 8 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-8-61 1-18 PM JLW

TO DIRECTOR 13 AND SACS ATLANTA AND NEWARK

FROM SAC NEW YORK 157-391 1P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA GEORGIA TO JACKSON, MISS., SIX SEVEN SIXTYONE., RM, COC, CR. REBUTEL SIX SEVEN SIXTYONE. NY TIMES, LATE CITY EDITION OF SIX SIX SIXTYONE ON PAGE TWENTY SIX, COLUMN TWO, REFLECTS ARTICLE ENTITLED TWO LAWYERS GOING SOUTH AND STATES AS FOLLOWS.

[redacted] OF THE MANHATTAN CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, SAID YESTERDAY THEY WOULD LEAVE TONIGHT TO INVESTIGATE THE ARRESTS OF FREEDOM RIDERS IN ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI. THEY PLAN TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AS LAWYERS."

EX-103 REC-23 157-391-67

JUN 9 1961

END

NY R 13 WA MSL

63 JUN 14 1961

SEC.D - CIVIL RIGHTS

cc: Mr. Rosen

157-387-68 IN THIS FILE SKIPPED DURING SERIALIZATION.

Item 6
2-9-65
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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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b7C

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 8, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Miss.
N.Y.

[redacted] of the New York State Legislature, [redacted] of the New York Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), were arrested by Jackson, Mississippi, Police at the Jackson airport upon their arrival this morning.

[redacted] upon arriving at the airport entered the white men's rest room. They were told by Captain [redacted] of the Jackson PD to move on. They then went into the waiting room and were again instructed by Captain [redacted] to move on. One of the individuals stated "We are going to sit down. We are interstate passengers." At that time they were placed under arrest by Captain [redacted] for breach of the peace.

They are presently in jail and trial is set for 3 PM (Central Standard Time), 6/8/61.

Captain [redacted] of the Detective Division, Jackson PD stated that [redacted] had said that he plans to be out after the trial this afternoon and will proceed to San Antonio, Texas.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCL. DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4 BJS/tcg #428602

ACTION

New Orleans Office will advise the Bureau of the results of the trial scheduled for the afternoon of 6/8/61.

CLM:ers
(6)

REC-79 157-387-69

EX-105

JUN 12 1961

50 JUN 16 1961

NO 6/8/61 3P 10 Dr RM

INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 8 1961
TELETYPE

b6
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b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-8-61 7-46 PM CLM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI, AND SAC, NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, CHICAGO /157-81/ 2P

FREEDOM RIDERS/RACIAL MATTERS. [redacted] TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS DATE [redacted] FOR COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUALITY PAREN CORE END PAREN, AND ASSOCIATED WITH FREEDOM RIDERS TRAINING SCHOOL TO SEND FREEDOM RIDERS TO THE SOUTH. [redacted] FURNISHED FOLLOWING INFO. CORE DESIRES TO SENT GROUP OF FREEDOM RIDERS TO SOUTH THIS DATE. GROUP PLANS TO LEAVE CHICAGO BY ILL. CENTRAL RR SEVEN FORTY PM THIS DATE. FREEDOM RIDERS WILL ARRIVE NEW ORLEANS FOUR FORTYFIVE PM JUNE NINE NEXT AND CONTACT CORE AND ARRANGE BY BUS TRAILWAYS OR GREYHOUND TO TRAVEL TO JACKSON, MISS. FOLLOWING PERSONS HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO GO. [redacted] F, AGE [redacted] M, AGE [redacted] REC 27 157-3871-710

[redacted] M, AGE [redacted] M, AGE [redacted]

[redacted] F, AGE [redacted] M, AGE [redacted]

END PAGE ONE

NP OC [redacted]

6-Rec

50 JUN 14 1961

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b7C

PAGE TWO

[redacted] M, AGE [redacted] F, AGE [redacted]

FILES REFLECT [redacted] WAS CP MEMBER APRIL, SIXTY. [redacted] CONTACTED FBI TO DETERMINE IF FBI WOULD GIVE CLEARANCE TO THE ABOVE NAMED INDIVIDUALS AS CORE DESIRES NO FREEDOM RIDERS TO BE EITHER SUBVERSIVE OR HAVING CRIMINAL RECORD. CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF FBI FILES EXPLAINED TO HER. FILES CONTAIN NO INFO RE [redacted] G DASH TWO CHICAGO ADVISED. LETTER HEAD FOLLOWS.. BIRMINGHAM, MEMPHIS AND MOBILE OFFICES ADVISED AMSDRM.

END AND ACK PLS.

WA 8-51 PM OK F BI WA VH

NO OK FBI NO SDF

TU DISCOV

CC-MR. ROSEN

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 12 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-8-61 9 P 5-29 PM CST HAE

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /~~100-225892~~/

SAC-S BIRMINGHAM , MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, MEMPHIS /157-140/

FREEBUS, RM. [redacted] NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, NASHVILLE, TENN., ADVISED THAT A GROUP OF FIVE FREEDOM RIDERS MISC. ARE SCHEDULED TO LEAVE NASHVILLE, TENN, BY L AND N RR, THE PAN AMERICAN, TODAY ENROUTE TO JACKSON, MISS. GROUP SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE BIRMINGHAM, ALA,., SEVEN FIFTYFIVE PM. WILL LEAVE BIRMINGHAM FOR JACKSON NINE PM. SEHEDULED TO ARRIVE JACKSON, MISS., FIVE AM, JUNE NINE, SIXTYONE. THEY DO NOT PLAN TO TEST FACILITIES UNTIL THEY REACH JACKSON. PAN AMERICAN IS RUNNING APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR LATE AT NASHVILLE. GROUP INCLUDES [redacted] M, [redacted] F [redacted] F [redacted] ALL FROM CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE, WILBERFORCE, OHIO. [redacted] M, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NYC, AND [redacted] F [redacted] FROM NYC.

REC-96 157-387-71

12 JUN 12 1961

END AND ACK PLS

WABVZ 7-32 PM OK FBI WA WS

BH OK FBI BH JHJ

MO OK FBI NO LM

MO OK FBI MO MCM

TU DISCVM

[redacted]

62 JUN 15 1961

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 8 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

URGENT 6-8-61 12-43PM CST BC

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-292 2P

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GA. TO JACKSON, MISS., JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYONE, RM, CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CR. RE PHONE CALL JACKSON RA TO BUREAU JUNE EIGHT. [redacted] NYNY, AND [redacted] NYNY, ARRESTED MUNICIPAL AIRPORT TERMINAL, JACKSON, MISS., NINE ZERO NINE A. M. JUNE EIGHT. BOTH CHARGED BREACH OF PEACE. [redacted] BORN [redacted] BRONX, NY, [redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK HAIR, MEDIUM BUILD, OLIVE COMPLEXION, [redacted] OCCUPATION [redacted] NEW YORK. FATHER [redacted] [redacted] MOTHER [redacted] ATTENDED LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY AND BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL. DECLINED FURNISH INFO RE PRIOR ARRESTS, PICKETING OR OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS. [redacted] BORN [redacted] [redacted] AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, [redacted]

END PAGE ONE

REC-96 157-3 82-72

EX-116

JUN 12 1961

62 JUN 15 1961

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PAGE TWO

[redacted] BROWN EYES, BLACK DASH GRAY HAIR, MEDIUM BUILD, LIGHT BROWN COMPLEXION, [redacted] OCCUPATION ATTORNEY, FATHER [redacted] MOTHER [redacted] EDUCATION HAMPTON INST., VA. AND COLUMBIA UNIVERISITY. ADMITTED PRIOR LABOR PICKETING AND STATES IS ATTORNEY FOR LABOR UNIONS, NYC. BOTH WILL PROBABLY BE TRIED MUNICIPAL COURT JACKSON JUNE EIGHT.

END AND ACK PLS

2-46 PM OK FBIWA JSA

TU DISC

cc. Mr. Rosen

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 12 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-8-61 10-47 PM EST BJG

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S MEMPHIS, NEW ORLEANS, BIRMINGHAM AND MOBILE

FROM SAC, ATLANTA 157-232 1P

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC

FREEBUS, RM. BERNARD LEE, , FREEDOM RIDE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ADVISED ONE NEGRO FEMALE, TWO WHITE FEMALES AND TWO WHITE MALES, IDENTITY UNKNOWN, HAVE DEPARTED NASHVILLE, TENN., BY RR, PRESUMABLY L AND N, IN ROUTE JACKSON, MISS. WILL ARRIVE JACKSON FIVE AM JUNE NINE NEXT. ADVISE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES. OTHER OFFICES ADVISED SEP.

END ACK PLS

11-50 PM OK FBI WA HFL

TJ DKSC V

63 JUN 14 1961

EX-105 REC-23 157-387-73

JUN 12 1961

6-Hon

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 7, 1961

b6
b7C

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE
Atlanta, Georgia, to
Jackson, Mississippi, 6/7/61
RACIAL MATTERS; CONTEMPT
OF COURT; CIVIL RIGHTS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/80 BY SP4 Brdtke #428602

SAC Held of the Mobile Office has furnished the following information:

Mark Lane and Percy Sutton arrived at Montgomery, Alabama, aboard a Greyhound bus at 11:40 a. m. (Central Standard Time) today. They disembarked from the bus and immediately proceeded to the white lunch room where they sat at the lunch counter. After a few minutes delay they were served soft drinks at the counter.

As soon as Lane and Sutton left the lunch counter they were met by various members of the press including local representatives as well as representatives from Associated Press and United Press International. In interviews with members of the press Lane and Sutton claimed they were merely on personal trips and disclaimed sponsorship by or association with any organizations. Sutton stated that he was on a week's vacation and Lane claimed that the State Legislature in New York was in recess for a week and he had merely decided to avail himself with the time off to take a trip through the South. They indicated that they intend to continue on to New Orleans and will probably leave Montgomery for Jackson, Mississippi, tomorrow morning.

No incidents or trouble of any kind occurred at the bus station and the entire matter was handled in a very orderly fashion. Officers from the Montgomery PD and from the county sheriff's office were present at the station but did not interfere in any way with Lane and Sutton.

A young "punk" who had been observed in the vicinity of the bus station at the time that the recent violence broke out was observed at the depot when the bus carrying Sutton and Lane arrived. Police reportedly intended to arrest him for loitering but it is not known at this time whether they actually did so.

JGK:ers
(6)

157-387-74

REC-79

EX-105

JUN 12 1961

63 JUN 15 1961

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Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

Prior to submitting to interviews by members of the press Sutton made a long-distance telephone call from the bus depot to an unknown individual. Mobile is checking this out to determine the identity of the individual called by Sutton.

There was no immediate indication as to how the members of the press were aware of the arrival of Lane and Sutton. Mobile is checking appropriate sources to determine this. At the present time Lane and Sutton have left the bus depot and are making a telephone call from a booth approximately one block from the bus depot.

The above information was furnished to [redacted] of the Civil Rights Division. [redacted] indicated that in view of Lane and Sutton's claim that they were on a personal trip and their disavowal of sponsorship by or association with any organizations, their actions would not appear to be in violation of the court order.

The Mobile Office furnished the above information to U. S. Attorney Hartwell Davis. He stated that he did not wish to express an opinion as to whether the activities constituted a violation of the court order until he has had an opportunity to discuss it with Judge Johnson.

ACTION

This matter is being closely followed and you will be advised of all pertinent developments.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961

TELETYPE

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC

URGENT 6-6-61 10-42 PM EM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE

FROM SAC, MEMPHIS /157-140/ 1P

FREEBUS, RM. [redacted] NCLC, NASH., TENN., ADVISED SEVEN PERSONS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE NASHVILLE, ONE-TEN AM ENROUTE TO MEMPHIS VIA TRAILWAYS BUS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MEMPHIS SIX-TWENTYFIVE AM. WILL LEAVE MEMPHIS ON UNDETERMINED BUS FOR JACKSON, MISS., AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ARRIVAL IN MEMPHIS. SEVEN INDIVIDUALS ARE - [redacted] MALE, [redacted] FEMALE, [redacted] MALE, [redacted] MALE, [redacted] MALE, [redacted] MALE. GROUP PLANS TO TEST FACILITIES JACKSON, MISS., UPON ARRIVAL. POSSIBLY WILL TEST FACILITIES AT MEMPHIS ENROUTE. [redacted] STATES PRIMARY PURPOSE OF TRIP HOWEVER IS TO REACH JACKSON TO TEST FACILITIES THERE.

END ACK PLS

WA 12-46 AM OK FBI WA ELR

NO OK FBI NO TJB

MO OK FBI MO MCM

TU DISV

50 JUN 14 1961

REC-85 157-387-75

8 JUN 12 1961

EX-113

FBI

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE
F.B.I. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-7-61 12-20 AM EM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S NEW ORLEANS AND MOBILE

FROM SAC, MEMPHIS /157-140/ 1P

FREEBUS, RM. [redacted] ADVISED ONLY SIX RIDERS LEAVING NASHVILLE AS [redacted] UNABLE TO MAKE TRIP. BUS LEAVING NASHVILLE ONE-TEN AM WITH ONLY ONE STOP BETWEEN NASH. AND MEMPHIS THAT BEING AT JACKSON, TENN., AT FOUR AM. WILL LEAVE MEMPHIS SEVEN-FORTYFIVE AM VIA TRAILWAYS BUS TO ARRIVE JACKSON, MISS., TWELVE-FORTYFIVE PM JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYONE. [redacted] TICKET AGENT TRAILWAYS, NASH., STATES FIVE OF GROUP PURCHASED TICKETS TO JACKSON, MISS. [redacted] PURCHASED TICKET TO MEXICO CITY, MEXICO.

END ACK PLS

WA 2-13 2-23 AM FBI WA 0711 TO FBI WA 0711 AGAIN PLS

2-23 AM OK FBI WA ECD

NO OK FBI NO OJT

MO OK FBI MO WLM

TU DISC V

157-387-76

REC-83

12

8 JUN 1961

EX-113

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63 JUN 14 1961

FBI
MISC - CIVIL RIGHTS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

U

RGENT 6-7-61 8-32 AM JLW

TO DIRECTOR ~~100-225892~~ AND SAC RICHMOND 100-157231

FROM SAC NEW YORK 100-79393 1P

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS. RE RICHMOND TEL TO BUREAU AND NEW YORK, SIX SIX SIXTYONE.

HEMPSTEAD, LI, NEW YORK ADVISED THIS DATE THAT HE IS A STUDENT A VIRGINIA UNION U., RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. HE IS CURRENTLY HOME ON VACATION FROM SCHOOL UNTIL SEPT., SIXTYONE, AND HAS NO INTENTION OF JOINING ANY FREEDOM RIDES AT THIS TIME AND EXPECTS TO REMAIN IN THE VICINITY OF HEMPSTEAD, LI. UNTIL SCHOOL REOPENS. HE STATED THAT HE WAS A MEMBER OF CORE. ATLANTA BIRMINGHAM CHARLOTTE KNOXVILLE MEMPHIS MOBILE NEW ORLEANS SAVANNAH AND WASH FLD ADVISED BY MAIL.

REC- 83

END

-8 8-35 AM OK FBI WA JDS

EX-118

63 JUN 14 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 7 1961
TELETYPE

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b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

O FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-7-61 12-03 P AM EST WDS

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, MIAMI

FROM SAC, JACKSONVILLE 2P

HAVANA SPECIAL NUMBER SEVEN FIVE, FLA. EAST COAST RAILROAD EN ROUTE TO MIAMI SIX FIVE SIXTY ONE, RACIAL MATTERS.

RE MIAMI TEL TO DIRECTOR AND JACKSONVILLE JUNE SIX LAST.

RETEL INDICATED [redacted]

WHEN BOARDING CAPTIONED TRAIN, TEN PM, JACKSONVILLE, OVERHEARD CONDUCTOR INSTRUCTING PORTER TO SEPARATE WHITE AND COLORED PEOPLE AS THEY BOARDED TRAIN. LATER CONDUCTOR TOLD SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING INFORMANT, THAT HE COULD NOT INTEGRATE HIS TRAIN IN VIEW OF TROUBLE CAUSED BY QUOTE FREEDOM RIDERS UNQUOTE.

WITH REGARD TO THE ABOVE INFORMATION [redacted]

REC-83 157-387-18

[redacted] WHO COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH THIS OFFICE ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, ADVISES EMPHATICALLY AND ABSOLUTELY THERE HAS BEEN NO EFFORT IN THE PAST [redacted] 1961 TO SEPARATE RACES ON TRAINS, DINING CARS, WAITING ROOMS, ETC.,

END PAGE ONE

EX-108

6-Nov

FBI
REC'D - CIA DIGHTS
63 JUN 14 1961

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PAGE TWO

BY FLORIDA EAST COAST RAILROAD. [redacted] HAS RECEIVED NO COMPLAINTS CONCERNING TRAIN NUMBER SEVENTYFIVE OR ANY INFORMATION WHATSOEVER THAT QUOTE FREEDOM RIDERS UNQUOTE WERE RIDING THEIR TRAINS OR ANTICIPATED DOING SO. HE HAS NO INFORMATION THAT ANY TROUBLE WAS ANTICIPATED ON THAT PARTICULAR TRAIN. LT. [redacted] JACKSONVILLE PD, ALERTED AND HE ADVISED THAT NO TROUBLE HAS BEEN EXPECTED WITH FLORIDA EAST COAST RAILROAD. CIC ADVISED.

E TIME SHD BE 12-03 PM

END AND ACK

WA 1-07 PM OK FBI WA JDS

MM OK FBI MM HSB

TU DISC

CC--MR. ROSEN

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-6-61 10-35 AM EDST EML

TO DIRECTOR, FBI ~~100-225892~~, SACS ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE KNOXVILLE, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, SAVANNAH, WASHINGTON FIELD AND NEW YORK

FROM SAC RICHMOND 157-231

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS. RE RICHMOND TEL JUNE FIVE LAST. [redacted] DISPATCHER, TRAILWAYS BUS STATION, RICHMOND, VA., ADVISED ON EARLY MORNING OF JUNE SIX INSTANT THAT THREE NEGROES, WHOSE NAMES WERE UNKNOWN TO HIM, BUT WHO WERE IDENTIFIED AT TRAILWAYS BUS STATION, RICHMOND, VA., AS QUOTE FREEDOM RIDERS QUOTE LEFT ON TRAILWAYS BUS AT TWELVE ZERO ONE AM, DST, JUNE SIX INSTANT WITH THREE TICKETS TO NASHVILLE, TENN. THREE ABOVE SCHEDULED TO CHANGE BUSES AT RALEIGH AND SALISBURY, NC. AND KNOXVILLE, TENN. EN ROUTE TO NASHVILLE. RIDERS IDENTIFIED AS [redacted] FROM WASHINGTON, D. C. AND [redacted] ALL VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BY BU AGENT WHO CONTACTED THEM PREVIOUSLY ON JUNE FIVE LAST. FOR INFO KNOXVILLE, [redacted] LEFT AT SEVEN THIRTY PM, DST, JUNE FIVE LAST, ON TRAILWAYS BUS FOR ATLANTA, GA. PLANS OF [redacted] WERE INDEFINITE UPON ARRIVAL AT NASHVILLE, ACCORDING

REC-40 157-387-79

END PAGE ONE

50 JUN 16 1961

TWO COPIES WFO

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PAGE TWO RH 157-231

TO [redacted] BUT ALL EVENTUALLY PLANNED ON GOING TO JA CKSON, MISS. BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES WILL BE ADVISED OF ADDITIONAL PERTINENT DATA. END AND ACK IN ORDER PLEASE.

FBI WA 10-38 P AM OK FBI WA WC

FBI AT OK FBI AT MB

FBI BH OK FBI BH JHJ

FBI CE OK FBI CE RNM

FBI KX OK FBI KX BEC

FBI ME OK FBI ME HAE

FBI MO OK FBI MO LO

FBI NO OK FBI NO MBK

FBI SV OK FBI SV AES

FBI NY OK FBI NY AMP

WUMDISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

11:03

URGENT 6-6-61 AM EDST EML

TO DIRECTOR FBI ~~100-224892~~ AND SAC NEW YORK

FROM SAC RICHMOND 157-231 FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS. REMYTELS JUNE FIVE AND SIX SIXTYONE, REFLECTING DEPARTURE RICHMOND, VA. [redacted]

[redacted] OF WASHINGTON, D. C. AND [redacted] ON JUNE FIVE LAST. ABOVE FOUR INDIVIDUALS ADVISED [redacted] OF NEW YORK WAS TO ACCOMPANY THE LATTER THREE NAMED INDIVIDUALS TO NASHVILLE, TENN. [redacted] WAS NOT OBSERVED TO BOARD BUS. INQUIRY VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY, RICHMOND, VA., REFLECTS [redacted] HOME ADDRESS [redacted] HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK, RESIDES OFF CAMPUS, [redacted] RICHMOND, VA., [redacted] THIS ADDRESS, ADVISED [redacted] LEFT FOR HIS HOME ON JUNE TWO LAST. [redacted] WHO ALSO RESIDES AT THIS ADDRESS, ADVISED [redacted] LEFT FOR HIS HOME, HEMPSTEAD, N. Y. SAME ADDRESS ABOVE, ON JUNE TWO LAST AND WAS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO RICHMOND ON THE MORNING OF JUNE FIVE LAST. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT RETURN AND NO WORD HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM HIME.

EX 104 REC 37 157-387-80

JUN 12 1961

END PAGE ONE

88 JUN 14 1961

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PAGE TWO RH 157-231

NEW YORK DETERMINE IF [redacted] HEMPSTEAD, NY, PLANS TO JOIN QUOTE FREEDOM RIDERS QUOTE IN GOING TO NASHVILLE, TENN., AND JACKSON, MISS., AND ADVISE BUREAU AND APPROPRIATE OFFICES. ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, KNOXVILLE, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, SAVANNAH AND WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE ADVISED BY AIRMAIL.

~~CORR - THE TIME SHOULE HAVE BEEN 11-03 ALSO PAGE ONE SIX LINE~~

~~FIFTH WORD SHOULD HAVE BEE TEE SHOULD HAVE BENN TENN~~

~~PAGE TWO LINE TWO THIRD WORD SHOULD HAVE BEEN NY~~

END AND ACK PLS

WA 11-08 AM OK FBI WA WC

OK FBI NY JLW

TU DISC

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

b6
b7C

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 6, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE
New ~~Orleans, Louisiana~~,
to Jackson, Mississippi, 6/6/61
RACIAL MATTERS

RIDERS - MISC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/9/00 BY SP4bjs/tcg #42860

With reference to the seven freedom riders who departed New Orleans this morning at 6:30 a.m., en route to Jackson, Mississippi, SA [redacted] Jackson, Mississippi, has furnished the following information.

The Trailways bus (#5131) carrying the freedom riders arrived at the Trailways bus station Jackson, Mississippi, at 11:27 a.m. (Central Standard Time), today, 1:27 p.m., Washington time. The freedom riders immediately disembarked and proceeded into the white waiting room of the bus depot. They were ordered to move on by officers of the Jackson, Mississippi, PD and upon refusing to comply, were arrested and charged with breach of the peace. The arrests occurred at 11:35 a.m. (Central Standard Time) 1:35 p.m. Washington time.

There was no crowd at the bus depot, no disturbances occurred and the arrests were carried out in an orderly manner.

The arrested freedom riders will be tried either late this afternoon or tomorrow.

JGK:ers
(6)

REC-10 157-387-81

EX-105

25 JUN 12 1961

62 JUN 15 1961

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

b6
b7C

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: June 6, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE
Atlanta, Georgia, to Jackson,
Mississippi, 6/7/61
RACIAL MATTERS; CONTEMPT OF
COURT; CIVIL RIGHTS

RIDERS - MISC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/7/00 BY SP4 Bjalkey
#42862

MISS.
GA.

[redacted] Civil Rights Division, stated Department has received a telegram from [redacted] of the New York State Legislature, advising that [redacted] member of the New York Bar (and [redacted] of the New York chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) plan to leave for Atlanta, Georgia, by plane on the night of 6/6/61. From Atlanta they will proceed by bus to Montgomery, Alabama, and thence to Jackson, Mississippi. [redacted] plan to use "all facilities available to persons traveling within the U. S."

[redacted] in the telegram stated he views with alarm the unlawful interference by Alabama and Mississippi authorities with residents of New York; therefore, [redacted] are going to investigate the situation in Alabama and Mississippi and give legal counsel to individuals unlawfully detained by state authorities.

[redacted] stated that the purpose of the telegram was to advise the Attorney General of the proposed action and to call upon the Attorney General to insure that [redacted] are protected during their travel.

EX- 105

REC- 79

157-387-82

ACTION:

The New York Office has been instructed to obtain background information concerning [redacted] and furnish same to the Bureau and interested offices. Newark Office has been instructed to verify the departure of [redacted] from Newark on evening of 6/6/61 and to advise the Bureau and interested offices.

25 JUN 12 1961

Atlanta, Birmingham, Mobile and New Orleans Offices have been instructed to immediately alert the appropriate local and state authorities concerning the proposed trip. These offices have also been advised to alert

CLM:ers
(6)

6 JUN 15 1961

6 - Rm

b6
b7C

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

appropriate informants and to insure that the Bureau and interested offices are advised of all pertinent developments.

It has been brought to the attention of Birmingham and Mobile offices that travel by [redacted] by bus in Alabama might be in violation of the preliminary injunction issued 6/2/61 by U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr.

The Attorney General June 6, 1961

REC- 95-157-387-83

Director, FBI

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

JUN 6 2 39 PM '61
RECD-READING ROOM
F B I

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE [illegible] BY [illegible]

The Jackson, Mississippi, Police have informed us that freedom rider Richard Leroy Gleason held a discussion with the press at Jackson on June [illegible], 1961. At that time Gleason expressed disappointment over the caliber of people engaged in the freedom rides. He said that publicity which he had heard misled him into joining the group and that other freedom riders threatened him while he was in jail at Jackson, Mississippi, because he would not participate in the hunger strike. Gleason recommended that others carefully investigate the group before joining the freedom riders and he alleged that the freedom riders who were to be tried at Jackson on June 5, 1961, planned to create an incident by fainting in court. No such incident occurred.

Richard Leroy Gleason is a white male minister from Chicago, Illinois, who is 24 years of age.

MAILED 2
JUN -6 1961
COMM-FBI

The 13 freedom riders who were arrested at Jackson, Mississippi, on June 2, 1961, were convicted in Municipal Court on June 5, 1961. Each was sentenced to serve 60 days in jail and fined $200. The jail sentences were suspended.

The prosecuting attorney announced in open court he will ask that future freedom riders who are convicted in Jackson receive the maximum sentence of four months in jail and be fined $200; also, that jail sentence not be suspended.

Medgar Evers, field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has advised that at 3:00 p.m., June 6, 1961, a group of Negroes will use the benches in Municipal Zoo which customarily were used by white people. This will be the same group of Negroes who used the benches on June 4, 1961, at which time they were taken to the police station but were released without charges being filed.

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Gandy

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
WLM:ers (14)

See note on page 4.

92 JUN 13 1961

TELETYPE UNIT

b6
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The Attorney General

Medgar Evers also advised that a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People rally will be held at Jackson at 8:00 p.m., June 7, 1961, in the Negro Masonic Temple Building. The principal speaker will be Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is anticipated that 800 to 1000 people will attend the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People rally. The Jackson Police are arranging to provide protection to insure that there will be no violence.

[redacted] New Orleans representative of the Congress of Racial Equality, stated that five white and three Negro freedom riders would depart from New Orleans at 5:15 a.m., Central Standard Time, June 6, 1961, en route to Jackson, Mississippi, via Trailways bus. The anticipated arrival time in Jackson is 11:30 a.m., Central Standard Time, June 6, 1961. Local authorities in New Orleans and Jackson as well as the Louisiana and Mississippi State Police have been advised.

[redacted] of freedom riders at Richmond, Virginia, planned to leave Richmond at 7:30 p.m., June 5, 1961, en route to Atlanta, Georgia, where he expected to arrive at 11:00 a.m., June 6, 1961. [redacted] stated that he planned to proceed to Jackson, Mississippi, from Atlanta but he did not know when or how he will make the trip to Jackson as he will work out the details with [redacted] of the Freedom Ride Coordinating Committee in Atlanta.

[redacted] further advised that a group of four freedom riders would leave Richmond by Trailways bus at midnight, June 5, 1961, en route to Nashville, Tennessee. From Nashville they intend to proceed to Jackson, Mississippi, but the details of their travel to Jackson have not yet been determined.

It is noted that the "Washington Daily News" carried an item on June 5, 1961, which indicated that freedom riders would leave Richmond on the evening of June 5, 1961, to travel to Jackson, Mississippi, and would make stops at Birmingham and Tuscaloosa, Alabama. [redacted] stated that he is not aware of any plans for freedom riders to travel through Alabama.

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The Attorney General

[redacted] a Congress of Racial Equality representative in Jackson, Mississippi, stated that a group of freedom riders will leave St. Louis, Missouri, at about noon June 6, 1961, to fly to Jackson, Mississippi, by commercial airline.

[redacted] of the Freedom Ride Coordinating Committee, Atlanta, Georgia, advised that two white and two Negro freedom riders will leave Wilberforce, Ohio, by Trailways bus on June 7, 1961. They will travel to Jackson, Mississippi, via Nashville, Tennessee, and Memphis.

The local press at Ithaca, New York, has reported that 17 students from Cornell University, including two women, have volunteered to join the freedom riders and that they have tentative plans to send one group this week and another group next week. It was stated that instructions would be received from the Congress of Racial Equality as to where and when the freedom riders should be sent.

On May 31, 1961, James Kynes, Administrative Aide to the Governor of Florida, held a meeting of state and local law enforcement officers in the Governor's office at Tallahassee, Florida. The meeting was attended by Tallahassee City Manager Arvah Hopkins; all members of the Tallahassee City Commission; Colonel H. N. Kirkman, Director of the Florida Highway Patrol; and Frank Stoutamire, Tallahassee Chief of Police.

At the above meeting it was agreed that if freedom riders arrive in Tallahassee, the police will immediately go to the transportation terminal with at least two deputy sheriffs. If the freedom riders violate state or municipal laws they will be arrested and quickly removed to the local jail. If an unruly crowd should form, the highway patrol will be called and if the highway patrol feels that more assistance is imperative, the Governor's office will be advised and a unit of the Florida National Guard will be called out for assistance in maintaining order.

Acting on instructions from company officials in Chicago, the manager of the Greyhound bus terminal in Tallahassee has removed all signs indicating segregation of the waiting rooms and has replaced them with signs which make no reference to color. The Trailways bus terminal, the railroad terminal and the municipal airport still have signs indicating that the waiting rooms are segregated.

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The Attorney General

[redacted] a principal witness [redacted] at Anniston, Alabama, on May 14, 1961, received an anonymous telephone call on June 5, 1961, from an unknown male who stated, "You have exactly 24 hours to get out of town."

Assistant U. S. Attorney George A. Blinn at Birmingham expressed the opinion that this call is in violation of Title 18, Section 1503, U. S. Code, since [redacted] testified at the U. S. Commissioner's hearing on May 29, 1961, and again at the injunction hearing on May 30, 1961. This aspect of the case is receiving vigorous attention.

Further pertinent developments will be promptly brought to the attention of the Department.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

NOTE: No information identifiable with [redacted] found in Bufiles.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 5 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Dalbach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-5-61 12-20PM CST BC

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 1P

FREEBUS. CHIEF OF DETECTIVES M. B. PIERCE, JACKSON, MISS. PD, ADVISED TODAY THAT RICHARD LEROY GLEASON, [redacted] AGE [redacted] & APPROX. [redacted] FROM CHICAGO, ILL., A FREEDOM RIDER ARRESTED JACKSON JUNE TWO LAST, HAS JUST COMPLETED TALKING TO PRESS. GLEASON EXPRESSED HIS DISAPPOINTMENT IN CALIBER OF FREEDOM RIDERS. SAID HE WAS MISLED INTO JOINING GROUP BY PUBLICITY HE HAD HEARD. STATED OTHER FREEDOM RIDERS HAD THREATENED HIM IN JAIL BECAUSE HE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN HUNGER STRIKE. SAID FREEDOM RIDERS TO BE TRIED THIS AFTERNOON IN JACKSON PLAN TO CREATE INCIDENT IN COURT BY FAINTING. RECOMMENDED THAT OTHERS PLANNING TO JOIN ~~FREEDOM RIDERS~~ SHOULD CAREFULLY INVESTIGATE GROUP BEFORE JOINING. GLEASON 2 1961 SCHEDULED FOR TRIAL THIS AFTERNOON.

157-387-83

REC-95

END AND ACK PLS

2-22 PM OK FBI WA WC

TU DISC

M

CC-MR. ROSEN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Ingram	
Miss Gandy	

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-6-61 1-53 AM FH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW ORLEANS /157-264/

FROM SAC, ALBANY /157-21/

FREEBUS RM. REMYTEL JUNE FIFTH LAST. CORNELL U. SOURCE ADVISED THAT GROUP WILL LEAVE ITHACA TODAY TO JOIN FREEDOM RIDERS/MISC./ AND THE TRIP WILL BE MADE BY PLANE TO UNDISCLOSED PLACE IN THE SOUTH. ADDITIONAL GROUP PLANNING TO LEAVE ITHACA JUNE TWELVE. SOURCE COULD LEARN NO FURTHER DETAILS NOR IDENTITIES OF PARTICIPANTS BUT PRESUMES THEY WILL INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS VOLUNTEERS. CONTACTS MADE AT ITHACA TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES, INCLUDING AIRLINES, FAILED TO DEVELOP ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. NO CHARTERS HAVE BEEN MADE AND NAMES OF KNOWN FREEDOM RIDER VOLUNTEERS NOT INCLUDED ON RESERVATION OR PASSENGER LIST.

END AND ACK

~~CORRECTION LINE EIGHT WORD FIVE SHOULD BE "FACILITIES"~~

EAND AND ACK PLS

2- WA 10-56 AM OK FBI WA WC

NO OK FBI NO MBK

TU DISC

JUN 15 1961 AM

157-387-84

REC-64

8 JUN 19 1961

6 JUN 15 1961

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS- MISC.

URGENT 6-6-61 11-58 AM NLB

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW ORLEANS

FROM SAC, ST. LOUIS 157-85 2 P

FREEBUS. RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE JUNE SIX, SIXTYONE. CHARLES R. OLDHAM, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF CORE, ATTORNEY, [redacted] RESIDENCE FIVE TWO TWO SEVEN WESTMINSTER PLACE, BOTH ST. LOUIS, TODAY ADVISED [redacted] WHO ARE NOT RELATED, COMPRISE QUOTE FREEDOM RIDER UNQUOTE GROUP SCHEDULED TO DEPART ST. LOUIS JUNE SEVEN, SIXTYONE AT TWO FIFTYFIVE P. M. CDT VIA DELTA AIRLINES FLIGHT NUMBER FOUR SIX FIVE AND ARRIVE JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI FOUR FIFTYFIVE P. M. CST SAME DATE. DESCRIPTIONS FURNISHED AS FOLLOWS. [redacted] AGE [redacted] [redacted] RACE [redacted] HEIGHT [redacted] WEIGHT [redacted] COMPLEXION DARK BROWN, BUILD SMALL, DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OCCASIONALLY WEARS [redacted] GLASSES, RESIDENCE [redacted] MISSOURI, EMPLOYED ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI HOSPITAL. [redacted]

~~CORR PLS LINE FIBE FIVE WORD THREE SHOULD BE~~ [redacted]
~~AND LINE FOURTEEN, WORD SIX SHOULD BE PLATEAU~~

END PAGE ONE

REC- 157-387-85

6 JUN 14 1961

6 JUN 61 1961

b6
b7C

PAGE TWO

[redacted] AGE [redacted] RACE [redacted] HEIGHT [redacted] WEIGHT [redacted] COMPLEXION MEDIUM BROWN, BUILD MEDIUM, NO DISTINGUISHING FEATURES, RR RESIDENCE [redacted] ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ENEMPLOYED. [redacted] AGE [redacted] RACE [redacted] POUNDS, WELL BUILT, NO DISTINGUISHING FEATURES, RESIDENCE [redacted] ST. LOUIS, UNEMPLOYED. GROUP PLANS TO RETURN TO ST. LOUIS BY TRAIN ON JUNE EIGHT, SIXTYONE. ARRANGEMENTS TO BE PERFECTED BY [redacted] CORE FIELD SECRETARY, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. OLDHAM WILL ADVISE OF ANY CHANGE IN PLANS. ST. LOUIS INDICES NEGATIVE RE [redacted]

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS

1-03 PM OM OK FBI WA MSL

OK FBI NO MBK

TU DISC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

NO 9:50 PM 6/6/61 PMW

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-6-61 6-53 PM CST TJB

TO DIRECTOR FBI

FROM SAC NEW ORLEANS 157-264 1-P

FREEDOM RIDERS-MISC RIDE ONE NINE SIXTY ONE, RM., CR. FOR INFO BUREAU FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF ARRESTS AND RELEASES ON BOND AND PAYMENT OF FINES OF FREEDOM RIDERS ARRESTED JACKSON,MISS., TO DATE. TOTAL ARRESTED PRIOR TO JUNE SIX, SIXTYFIVE, ARRESTED TODAY SEVEN, TOTAL ARRESTED SEVENTY TWO. NUMBER RELEASED ON BOND PRIOR TO TODAY SEVENTEEN. NO ONE MADE BOND TODAY. TOTAL PAYING FINES PRIOR TO TODAY-ONE. ON THIS DATE [redacted] WHO WAS ARRESTED ON TRAILWAYS BUS NUMBER ON JUNE TWO LAST PAID FINE AND WAS RELEASED. TOTAL OUT ON BOND AND FINES NINETEEN, IN CUSTODY FIFTYTHREE.

END AND ACK PLS.

8-55 PM OK FBI WA RAM

U TU DISC

REC. 64 157-387-86

JUN 12 1961

cc [redacted]

6-NOW

68 JUN 15 1961

149

9:50 PM

6/6/61

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 6 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

URGENT 6-6-61 8-44 PM EDST JFH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, MOBILE,
NEW ORLEANS AND NEW YORK
NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM SAC, NEWARK RIDERS — MISC.

PROPOSED FREEDOM RIDE FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, JUNE SEVENTH, NINETEEN SIXTYONE, RACIAL MATTERS. CONTEMPT OF COURT ORDER, CIVIL RIGHTS. RE BUTEL JUNE SIX, INSTANT. [redacted] DEPARTED NEWARK AIRPORT ABOARD EASTERN AIRLINE FLIGHT NO. FIVE ONE FIVE AT SIX PM TODAY FOR ATLANTA, GEORGIA. ARRIVAL TIME ATLANTA SEVEN FORTY THREE PM. [redacted] IS [redacted] AGE [redacted] DARK COMPLEXION, BLACK CURLY HAIR, [redacted] DARK GRAY SUMMER SUIT, NO HAT, CARRYING LIGHT TAN BRIEF CASE AND WHITE AIRLINE TYPE CANOAS BAG. [redacted] IS [redacted] MALE, AGE [redacted] LIGHT COMPLEXION, DARK SUMMER SUIT, GRAY STRAW HAT, CARRYING TAN BRIEF CASE. ABOVE FURNISHED ATLANTA BY PHONE. RUC.

END AND ACK IN ORD PLS

WA 8-42 PM OK FBI WA WS R RELAY

AT OK FBI AT JBB

BH

MO OK FBI MO MCM

NO OK FBI NO NB

WE WILL TRY TO CALL BH PLS DISC

[redacted] 62-357-87

REC-64 12

8 JUN 10 1961

cc [redacted] - 104

6 JUN 15 1961

RELAYED TO NY

Birmingham, Alabama
24 May 1961

Hon. Robert F. Kennedy
U. S. Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

As A Southern Democrat, I supported President John F. Kennedy, your brother, when he ran for President of the United States.

I want to express my feelings as well as the feelings of the majority of the Southern people in Birmingham and Alabama. You have and are making a grave mistake in your protection of the so called "Freedom Riders". Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F.B.I., has stated that these "Freedom Riders" are members of the N.A.A.C.P., a Communistic organization. You are so quick to have F.B.I. investigations of various organizations, why don't you have the N.A.A.C.P. investigated by the F.B.I.. Mr. Hoover would never have made this statement had there been any doubt that he was right. Has the United States Government sold out to the Communists? Please think this over and give it your consideration as it is time for the Federal Government to wake up and be concerned about the Communists before it is too late.

It is a known fact that the Southern people are better to the Negro than people in any other section of the United States. They should raise their moral standards if they expect to associate with decent white people. If the statistics were checked; one could plainly see that the negro's moral standards are very low by the fact that there are numerous illegitimate negro children born day after day. Most of these negroes receive free hospital care for delivery of these bastard children and most of them are being supported by Public Welfare.

Mr. Kennedy, please read this letter and give it your consideration.

b6
b7C

Yours very truly,

[redacted]

Birmingham, Alabama

DFW/sm

87

The Attorney General June 5, 1961

Director, FBI

157-387-88

b6
b7C

[redacted]

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

On May 24, 1961, correspondent wrote to this Bureau, enclosing a copy of his letter to you dated May 24. I am enclosing copies of this correspondence, as well as a copy of my reply to him dated June 5, 1961.

Enclosures (3)

1 - Mr. Byron R. White - Enclosures (3)
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Belmont - Enclosures (3)
1 - Mr. Evans - Enclosures (3)

REC'D-READING ROOM
F B I
JUN 5 4 30 PM '61

MAILED 4
JUN - 5 1961
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

CJH:gcb
(8)

19 JUN 6 1961

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

62 JUN 14 1961

157-387-88

June 5, 1961

REC-97

[redacted]

Birmingham, Alabama

b6
b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of May 24, 1961, with enclosure, has been received.

It was good of you to give me the benefit of your observations. I would like to point out, however, that the FBI does not furnish comments or evaluations concerning the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication, and I have never made the statement which was attributed to me in your letter to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JUN 5 4 30 PM '61

FBI - READING ROOM

RECEIVED FBI
JUN 5 1961

MAILED 60
JUN 5 - 1961
COMM-FBI

1 - Mr. Belmont - Enclosure (Sent with copy of letter to A. G.)
1 - Mr. Evans - Enclosure (Sent with copy of letter to A. G.)

NOTE: A copy of correspondent's incoming together with our outgoing to him were furnished to the Attorney General on 6-5-61. Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. He enclosed a copy of a letter which he had written to the Attorney General on 5-24-61 in which he claimed that the Director had stated that the "Freedom Riders" were members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a communist organization. The Director noted, "I don't recall making of any such statement. H"

CJH:pak (6)

Room

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Mr. W.C.Sullivan
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

Birmingham, Alabama
24 May 1961

b6
b7C

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Director of F.B.I.
Justice Department
Washington, D. C.

FREEDOM RIDERS- MISC

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Enclosed please find copy of letter which I have written and mailed to Mr. Robert F. Kennedy, U. S. Attorney General.

I sincerely hope that something can be done about our situation here in the South. We think this is the most ridiculous and absurb thing that has ever happened in this U.S.A.

Where are our State's rights? Where is the white people's freedom? We are being discriminated against.

In closing, may I say that you are greatly admired and respected in the South as well as all other sections of the Country and we do hope that your Bureau can help out in this situation.

Yours very truly,

Birmingham, Alabama

Enc.

EFW/am

ENCLOSURE

157-387-88

REC-97

JUN 9 1961

EX-113

MAY 26 1961

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

JUN

TELETYPE

[redacted]

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-5-61 3-52 PM GMM

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW ORLEANS /157-264/

FROM SAC, ALBANY /157-21/ 2P

FREEBUS RM. REMYTEL JUNE SECOND LAST. JUNE THREE ISSUE OF QUOTE ITHACA JURNAL UNQUOTE, ITHACA DAILY NEWSPAPER, CONTAINS ARTICLE EMANATING FROM CORNELL COMMITTEE AGAINST SEGREGATION REFLECTING SEVENTEEN STUDENTS, INCLUDING TWO WOMEN, HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO JOIN FREEDOM RIDERS AND THAT TENTATIVE PLANS ARE TO SEND ONE GROUP SOUTH THIS WEEK AND ANOTHER GROUP NEXT WEEK. INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE OBTAINED FROM CORE ON WHERE AND WHEN TO SEND THE STUDENTS, WHOSE NAMES WERE NOT IDENTIFIED. CORNELL STUDENTS PREVIOUSLY ARRESTED IN JACKSON, [redacted] REPORTEDLY ON HUNGER STRIKE. CORNELL SOURCES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY ADDITIONAL FREEDOM RIDERS VOLUNTEER RECRUITS. PERSONS VOLUNTEERING MUST SIGN APPLICATION BLANKS WHICH ARE SENT TO [redacted] CORE OFFICE IN NYC. APPLICATION BLANK OBTAINED BY THIS OFFICE CALLS FOR NON VIOLENT PROTEST AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SIGNER MUST AGREE TO

REC-64 157-387-89

8 JUN 12 1961

END PAGE ONE

62 JUN 14 1961

Ex-12

6-New

PAGE TWO

WAIVE ALL RIGHTS TO DAMAGES AGAINST CORE OR ANY OTHER SPONSORING ORGANIZATION. IN ADDITION, TO BACKGROUND DATA, APPLICATION CALLS FOR LISTING ANY CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS TO WHICH SIGNER BELONGS, PAST EXPERIENCE WITH NON VIOLENT ACTION AND TWO REFERENCES. AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY COPY TO NEW YORK

END AND ACK PLS

3-57 PM OK FBI WA BH

OK FBI NO MBK

TU DISC

CC--MR. ROSEN

FBI
JUN 2 3 20 PM '21
FBI - NEW YORK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 5 1961
TELETYPE

b6
b7C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

URGENT 6-5-61 11-33 PM EDST LCG

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, SAVANNAH, WFO, AND NEW YORK

NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM SAC, RICHMOND /157-231/ 2P

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS. REMYTEL JUNE TWO, SIXTYONE. [redacted] VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY, RICHMOND, VA., ADVISED TODAY HE PLANS TO LEAVE RICHMOND, VA. VIA TRAILWAYS BUS AT SEVEN THIRTY P. M. E.D.S.T. WITH DESTINATION ATLANTA, GA. AND EXPECTS TO ARRIVE ATLANTA ELEVEN A.M., ATLANTA TIME, SIX SIX, SIXTYONE. [redacted] STATES PLANS INDEFINITE AT ATLANTA BUT WILL CONFER WITH [redacted] STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND EVENTUALLY PLANS ON GOING TO JACKSON, MISS. [redacted] STATED [redacted] FROM WASHINGTON, D. C., [redacted] NEW YORK CITY, AND [redacted] PLAN ON LEAVING RICHMOND, VA. ABOUT MIDNIGHT, SIX FIVE, SIXTYONE, VIA TRAILWAYS BUS FOR NASHVILLE, TENN. [redacted] STATES DESTINATION OF THESE PERSONS IS EVENTUALLY JACKSON, MISS., HOWEVER, IMMEDIATE PLANS AT NASHVILLE, TENN. ARE INDEFINITE AND APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL AT JACKSON UNKNOWN. NO PARTICULAR REASON GIVEN FOR CHANGE

REC-64 157-387-90

14 JUN 7 1961

62 JUN 15 1961

XEROX

TWO COPIES WFO JUN 13 1961

RELAYED TO NJ

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OF PLANS. [redacted] WAS OBSERVED TO BOARD TRAILWAYS BUS AT RICHMOND, VA. FOR RALEIGH, N. C. AT SEVEN THIRTY P. M., SIX FIVE, SIXTYONE. [redacted] WERE AT TRAILWAYS BUS STATION AND TOLD BUAGENT THEY PLANNED TO LEAVE RICHMOND VIA TRAILWAYS BUS WITH SECOND [redacted] AT TWELVE ZERO ONE A. M., SIX SIX, SIXTYONE, AND ARRIVE AT NASHVILLE, TENN. EVENING OF SIX SIX, SIXTYONE. ALL ARE NEGROES. THEY STATED THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW LONG THEY WILL BE IN NASHVILLE, TENN., BUT PLAN ON GOING TO JACKSON, MISS. DISPATCHER, TRAILWAYS BUS STATION, RICHMOND, ADVISED TICKET TO ATLANTA, GA. SOLD TO [redacted] AND THREE TICKETS TO NASHVILLE SOLD TO THREE OTHER NEGROES WITH [redacted] BUS LEAVING RICHMOND TWELVE ZERO ONE A. M., SIX SIX, SIXTYONE, SCHEDULED TO TRAVEL VIA RALEIGH, SALISBURY, AND ASHEVILLE, N. C., ARRIVING NASHVILLE NINE FORTYFIVE P. M., SIX SIX, SIXTYONE. RICHMOND WILL MAINTAIN COVERAGE AND BUREAU AND OTHER OFFICES WILL NOT BE ADVISED UNLESS PLANS CHANGE. ALL OFFICES ALERT INFORMANTS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES. LETTERHEAD MEMO FOLLOWS.

END AND ACK IN ORD PLS

WA 11-40 PM OOK FBI WA HFL FOR RELAY

AT OK FBI AT JBB

BH OK F BI BH JCM

CE OK FBI CE RDH

ME OK FBI ME EM

MO OK FBI MO MCM

NO OK FBI NO LM

~~CV KECN~~ 855ANG A SV

EMTTU DISC VVVVMMMMT

FD-36 (Rev. 12-18-56)

FBI

Date: 6-3-61

Transmit the following in AIRTEL (Type in plain text or code)

Via REGULAR MAIL (Priority or Method of Mailing)

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (~~100-225892~~)

FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (157-231)

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
RACIAL MATTERS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

Remytel 6-2-61.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are eight (8) copies of a letterhead memorandum and copies for offices receiving copies of this communication.

Confidential source mentioned is [redacted] who requested identity be concealed, furnished information to SA [redacted]

The sources alerted and Bureau and interested offices will be advised of pertinent developments.

-P-

3-Bureau (Enc. 8)
2-Atlanta (Enc. 2) (157-89)
2-Birmingham (Enc. 2) (157-48)
2-Charlotte (Enc. 2)
2-Knoxville (Enc. 2) (Air Mail)
2-Memphis (Enc. 2)
2-Mobile (Enc. 2) (Air Mail)
2-New Orleans (Enc. 2) (Air Mail) (157-96)
2-Savannah (Enc. 2) (Air Mail)
2-Washington Field (Enc. 2) (100-35588)
2-New York (Enc. 2) (Air Mail)
2-Richmond
CFH:lme
(25)

157-387-91

REC-56

JUN 15 1961

Agency Transportation CRD
Req. Rec'd
Date Forw. 6/7/61
How Forw.
By Acting Records Unit

2 cc's destroyed

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

63 JUN 15 1961

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Richmond, Virginia

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June 3, 1961

RE: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY

On June 1, 1961 [redacted] a Negro student at the Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia, advised that he is the leader of a group of Negro students who plan to go to Jackson, Mississippi, in connection with the "Freedom Ride" expedition. [redacted] advised that none of the group had departed Richmond, Virginia, and the first group will leave June 5, 1961, at 7:30 p.m. via non-chartered Trailways bus. He advised that the date of arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, is unknown as the group will lay over a few hours in Atlanta, Georgia, to coordinate plans with [redacted] of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

[redacted] advised the group leaving Richmond, Virginia, will consist of five Negroes, all students of the Virginia Union University; namely, [redacted], home residence unknown, and [redacted] whose home is in [redacted]

[redacted] advised that there are no plans for groups to leave Richmond, Virginia; however, [redacted] teacher, Virginia Union University from [redacted] may leave after June 8, 1961. He advised that no one from [redacted] Virginia, plans to accompany his group and he knows of no plans for any individual leaving from these areas.

[redacted] stated that his group has no formal organization that is composed of a spontaneous group who

1 XEROX
JUN 13 1961

157-387-91
ENCLOSURE

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RE: CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY

desires to go to Mississippi and he is acting as leader. He stated they have contact with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committtee.

[redacted] stated he would advise the Richmond Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation if there were any changes in the above plan.

On June 2, 1961, [redacted] Trailways Bus Company, advised that there are no buses chartered to go to Mississippi and no reservations have been made for Jackson, Mississippi. He advised that Trailways has a regularly scheduled bus which departs daily at 7:30 p.m. for Raleigh, North Carolina, which has connections for Jackson, Mississippi.

A confidential source on June 2, 1961 reported that [redacted] who has been an organizer for Negro Demonstrations in Petersburg, Virginia, advised that no one was going from Petersburg to Mississippi in connection with "Freedom Ride" within the next few weeks.

This is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the Agency to which loaned.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 6/2/61

FROM :

SUBJECT: FREEDOM RIDE 1961 - RIDERS - MISC.
TRAILWAYS BUS #T2953
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
6:44 p.m., CST, 6/2/61
RACIAL MATTERS

SA called from the Jackson RA at 9:59 p.m. to advise that another bus load of freedom riders had arrived and were arrested.

He said that according to Chief of Detectives M. B. Pierce of the Jackson Police Department the following freedom riders were arrested at 6:55 p.m., CST, 6/2/61 at the Trailways bus terminal in Jackson. There were no incidents.

B. APPROX. New York City, female, years,

Chicago, Illinois, male, years,

B. APPROX. Nashville, Tennessee, female, years,

B. APPROX. Nashville, Tennessee, male, years, student, Tennessee A and I

B. APPROX. Corinth, Mississippi, male, years, unemployed

B. APPROX. Atlanta, Georgia, male, years, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

B. APPROX. Chicago, Illinois, male, years,

FCW:dsj
(3)

50 JUN 14 1961

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Memorandum for Mr. Rosen

Chief of Detective Pierce advised [redacted] is acting as the spokesman for the group. He stated the group is incarcerated in the Jackson City Jail and none have attempted to make bond.

SA [redacted] advised no trial date has yet been set for this group; however, the earlier group has been scheduled for trial at 3:00 p.m. Monday.

[redacted] also stated that according to Sheriff J. Robert Gilfoy the following two freedom riders were released on $500 bond today pending appeal: [redacted] According to Sheriff Gilfoy these were members of the first group arrested 5/24/61 and were scheduled to leave Jackson at 7:05 p.m., CST, tonight for Nashville. MISS. TENN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 2 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Evans
Mr. Malone
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Ingram
Miss Gandy

b6
b7C

URGENT 6-2-61 9-12 PM EDST LCG

TO DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC-S, ATLANTA, BIRMINGHAM, CHARLOTTE, KNOXVILLE, MEMPHIS, MOBILE, NEW ORLEANS, SAVANNAH, WFO, AND NEW YORK

NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FREEDOM RIDERS- MISC.

FROM SAC, RICHMOND 2P

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY, RACIAL MATTERS. REMYTEL SIX TWO-SIXTYONE. VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY, /VUU/ STUDENT, RICHMOND, VA., ADVISED TODAY THAT HE IS LEADER OF GROUP OF NEGRO STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO GO TO JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI IN CONNECTION QUOTE FREEDOM RIDE UNQUOTE EXPEDITION. ADVISED NONE OF GROUP HAVE DEPARTED AND FIRST GROUP WILL LEAVE RICHMOND JUNE FIVE, SIXTYONE AT SEVEN THIRTY P. M. VIA NON-CHARTERED TRAILWAY BUS. DATE OF ARRIVAL IN JACKSON UNKNOWN AS GROUP WILL LAYOVER A FEW HOURS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA TO COORDINATE PLANS WITH STUDENT NON-VIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE /SNVCC/. GROUP LEAVING RICHMOND WILL CONSIST OF FIVE NEGROES ALL STUDENTS VUU, NAMELY BELIEVED FROM AND HE STATED NO PLANS FOR OTHERS TO LEAVE RICHMOND,

REC-64 157-387-93

END PAGE ONE

JUN 6 1961

TWO COPIES WFO

RELAYED TO NY

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PAGE TWO

HOWEVER, [redacted] TEACHER VUU, FROM [redacted] MAY LEAVE AFTER JUNE EIGHT. [redacted] ADVISED NO ONE FROM RICHMOND, CHARLOTTESVILLE OR PETERSBURG, VA., PLANNING TO ACCOMPANY HIS GROUP AND KNOWS OF NO PLANS FOR ANY INDIVIDUALS LEAVING THESE AREAS. [redacted] STATED GROUP HAS NO ORGANIZATION IN RICHMOND, BUT CONSISTS OF SPONTANEOUS GROUP WHO DESIRE TO GO AND HE IS ACTING AS LEADER. THEY HAVE CONTACT WITH SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, NAACP, CORE, AND SNVCC. [redacted] STATED WOULD ADVISE THIS OFFICE IF ANY CHANGE IN ABOVE PLANS. RECONTACT TRAILWAY BUS SOURCES ADVISE NO BUSES CHARTERED OR RESERVATIONS MADE BY ANY INDIVIDUALS FOR JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI. ADVISED THERE IS REGULARLY SCHEDULED BUS WHICH DEPARTS DAILY AT SEVEN THIRTY P. M. FOR RALEIGH, N. C. WHICH MAKES CONNECTIONS TO JACKSON, MISS. SOURCE [redacted]

NEGRO DEMONSTRATION THAT CITY AS STATING NO ONE FROM THAT CITY GOING TO MISSISSIPPI FOR NEXT FEW WEEKS. LETTERHEAD MEMO FOLLOWS.

END AND ACK IN ORD PLS

WA 9-19 PM OK FBI WA RAM FOR RELAY

AT OK FBI AT HHS

BH OK FBI BH HEP

CE OK FBI CE HM

ME OK FBI ME JWB

MO OK FBI MO WLM

NO OK FBI NO WFM

SV OK FBI SV PP

TU DISC 0

cc. Mr. Rosen

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
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Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

TO : Mr. Parsons

DATE: June 1, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: FREEBUS

FREEDOM RIDERS - MISC.

SYNOPSIS

Injunction proceedings dismissed against "Bull" Connor, Birmingham Police Commissioner; Jamie Moore, Birmingham Police Chief; [redacted] and the Federated Klans.

Injunction hearing continued with regard to other defendants including L. B. Sullivan, Montgomery Commissioner of Public Affairs, and G. J. Ruppenthal, Montgomery Chief of Police.

[redacted] called as defense witness 5/31/61 at injunction hearing. He was questioned regarding notes found when he was assaulted which included names of Reverend Abernathy, Reverend Shuttlesworth and freedom riders.

Defense attorneys apparently attempted to create impression that the Department was backing the freedom riders. It is not believed that the defense was successful.

[redacted] was also called upon to testify for the defense regarding his observation of the violence near the Montgomery Bus Station, 5/20/61.

A new group of approximately eight freedom riders may go from Atlanta to Montgomery, Alabama, and then to Jackson, Mississippi, 6/1/61.

Freedom ride from Nashville, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi, on 6/1/61 may be canceled.

Cornell University students have recently participated as freedom riders and efforts are now being made to recruit additional Cornell students.

Cornell students who volunteer must be prepared to spend 67 days in jail. (Freedom riders in jail at Jackson, Mississippi, are serving 67 days in lieu of fine.)

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

WLM:jam
(9)

REC-66 157-387-94

EX-113

6 JUN 7 1961

1 XEROX JUN 13 1961

58 JUN 14 1961

157-373

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12-23-80 BY [redacted]

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

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Memorandum to Mr. Parsons
RE: FREEBUS

Nine members of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity are to leave Cornell 6/1/61 for New Orleans to attend a CORE workshop and then serve as freedom riders. Other groups may go to New Orleans 6/3/61 and 6/12/61.

Approximately 30 Cornell students have indicated a desire to serve as freedom riders.

Paul S. Green, a Cornell student in jail at Jackson, has put out news story that the freedom riders are on a hunger strike and has asked students to send telegrams to the Attorney General. Jackson Police state all freedom riders ate dinner 5/31/61.

[redacted] a freedom rider in jail at Jackson, was given a private cell at his request. He has alleged he is being held in solitary and that his cell is dark during the day but he is under a glaring light at night. The police state the cell has a window and a street light shines through the window at night.

NAACP is urging Negroes to use transportation facilities on an unsegregated basis during the normal course of travel. NAACP intends to push Negro use of beaches on the Mississippi Gulf Coast this summer and NAACP headquarters has allegedly written AAG Burke Marshall in this regard.

Communist Party, U.S.A. is continuing to play up the freedom rides. A letter in this regard has been sent to all National Committee members and an article will allegedly appear in "Political Affairs" for June, 1961.

Additional freedom rides are scheduled from Montgomery to Jackson 6/3/61 and from New Orleans to Jackson 6/2/61, 6/3/61 or 6/4/61.

ACTION

A memorandum is being prepared for the Attorney General.

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Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

DETAILS

In connection with the injunction hearing at Montgomery, Alabama, a dismissal was entered on 5/31/61 with regard to the Federated Klans; [redacted] Birmingham Police Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor; and Birmingham Police Chief Jamie Moore. The hearing was continued with regard to other klan organizations; klan leaders; Montgomery Commissioner of Public Affairs L. B. Sullivan; and Montgomery Police Chief G. J. Ruppenthal.

[redacted] was called as a defense witness on 5/31/61. He was questioned regarding notes which were found near him at the time that he was assaulted. The notes included the names of Reverend Abernathy, Reverend Shuttlesworth and the freedom riders. It appeared that the defense attorneys were attempting to create the impression that [redacted] and the Department of Justice were backing the freedom riders. It is not believed that the defense was successful in this regard.

[redacted] who has been representing the Government in this matter, was also called upon by the defense to testify regarding the incidents he observed from the Federal Building when the rioting occurred near the Montgomery bus station, 5/20/61.

A new group of approximately eight freedom riders may travel from Atlanta to Montgomery, Alabama, and then to Jackson, Mississippi, on 6/1/61. They may go by Greyhound Bus, arriving in Jackson between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., 6/1/61.

It was originally planned to send nine freedom riders from Nashville, Tennessee, to Jackson on 6/1/61. However, five of the group have decided not to go and the trip may be canceled.

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Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

[redacted] of the National Student Nonviolent Movement in Nashville, advised that there is a possibility that no further freedom rides will originate from Nashville. However, [redacted] informed the Atlanta Office that starting on the evening of 6/1/61 all freedom rides will originate at Nashville and that she is returning to Nashville from Atlanta.

Sources at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, have advised that five Cornell students drove to New Orleans on 5/27/61. In New Orleans they attended a CORE workshop after which four of the students accompanied a group of freedom riders to Jackson, Mississippi, where they were arrested on 5/30/61.

The fifth student, [redacted] returned to Cornell to instruct other students who are volunteering as freedom riders. Recruitment efforts are being made by the Cornell Committee Against Segregation which is directed by [redacted] an undergraduate student.

All volunteers at Cornell must be prepared to spend 67 days in jail in lieu of the $200 fine which has been imposed on those arrested at Jackson. This has caused many to refrain from volunteering.

Another group in Ithaca, New York, known as the Freedom Walk Committee, which is an established local antisegregation group, has commenced a fund drive to raise money for the fines and legal expenses of the arrested freedom riders.

There is no information indicating that either the Cornell Committee Against Segregation or the Freedom Walk Committee is under communist control.

On 6/1/61, nine members of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity are leaving Cornell for New Orleans to attend a CORE workshop and then to serve as freedom riders. Other

groups of Cornell students are scheduled to travel to New Orleans on June 3 and June 12, 1961. If there are less than 25 in each group, they will travel by private automobiles. If there are more than 25 in each group, they will travel by chartered bus. Approximately 30 Cornell students have indicated a desire to serve as freedom riders.

Paul S. Green, a Cornell University student, was arrested with the freedom riders at Jackson, Mississippi, 5/30/61. He has put out a news story to the effect that the freedom riders in jail at Jackson are going on a hunger strike which will continue until there is an injunction against the people of Jackson. Green has also been in touch with students at Cornell and has requested that telegrams be sent to the Attorney General in this regard. The Jackson Police have advised that all of the freedom riders ate dinner on 5/31/61.

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The Jackson Police have advised that [redacted] who was arrested with the first group of freedom riders in Jackson on 5/24/61, requested and was given a private cell in the city jail. He wrote a letter 5/31/61 in which he alleged that he is being held in solitary confinement and that his cell is dark during the day but that he is under a glaring light at night. The police advised that the cell has a window and that presumably the light complained of by [redacted] is a street light which shines through the window at night. [redacted] letter was passed by the jail censor without change.

Medgar Evers, Field Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for Mississippi, advised on 5/31/61 that he had received a telegram from NAACP headquarters in New York urging Negroes to use transportation facilities on an unsegregated basis in the normal course of travel. Evers also advised that the NAACP definitely intends to push Negro use of beaches on the Mississippi Gulf Coast this summer. It is Evers' understanding that NAACP headquarters in New York has written to AAG Burke Marshall in this regard but the matter has not yet been given any publicity.

Memorandum to Mr. Parsons

Phil Bart, National Organizational Secretary, Communist Party, U.S.A. (CP, USA), has addressed a letter to all National Committee members of the CP, USA. This letter deals with the freedom rides and alleges that southern states have revolted against the Federal Government. It states that the party should seek to play a threefold role: it should seek to unify all "anti-segregation" and "anti-rebellion popular forces in mass action;" it should speak out and act in its own name; and it should fight to put forward its own perspective for defending the Negro people and ending the Jim Crow System.

Enclosed with Bart's letter was an article to appear in "Political Affairs" for June, 1961. The article discusses the freedom rides and is critical of the President for not taking more prompt and vigorous action. It is stated that, "The United States Army - with fully integrated units - could and should restore the supremacy of United States law in Alabama and wherever it is spat upon." "Political Affairs" is a monthly publication of CP, USA.

[redacted] of CORE, advised on 5/31/61 that no freedom rides sponsored by CORE are leaving the New York area in the next several days. He stated that the only freedom rides that he knows of are one which will leave Montgomery, Alabama, for Jackson, Mississippi, on 6/3/61 and one which will leave New Orleans for Jackson on 6/2/61, 6/3/61 or 6/4/61.

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The Attorney General

May 31, 1961

Director, FBI

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6072

FREEDOM RIDE 1961
RACIAL MATTERS; DESTRUCTION OF
AIRCRAFT OR MOTOR VEHICLES; CIVIL RIGHTS

On May 29, 1961, 22 of the freedom riders were moved from the county jail to the Hinds County Penal Farm at Raymond, Mississippi.

[redacted] one of the [redacted] freedom riders taken to the penal farm, has alleged that during the booking procedure [redacted] was slapped twice by Max Thomas, Superintendent of the penal farm, when [redacted] responded to questions by stating "Uh huh" or grunting instead of replying "Yes sir" or "No sir" as instructed by Thomas. [redacted] did not require medical attention.

[redacted] one of the [redacted] freedom riders who was taken to the Hinds County Penal Farm, has alleged that [redacted] failed to reply "Yes sir" or "No sir" [redacted] was hit several times on the head with a stick by one subject, apparently a guard; swung at and shoved by Max Thomas; and struck with a blackjack by a third subject who apparently was also a guard.

Sheriff J. R. Gilfoy of Hinds County has advised us that when Governor Ross Barnett heard of the alleged mistreatment of the freedom riders, he held a meeting in his office with Sheriff Gilfoy and the Hinds County Board of Supervisors. As a result of this meeting, Max Thomas was immediately suspended pending a thorough investigation and the freedom riders were returned from the penal farm to the county jail to preclude the possibility of another incident.

The above information was discussed with Mr. Burke Marshall on May 30, 1961, by [redacted] of the FBI. In accordance with the opinion of Mr. Marshall, we will conduct no further investigation of the above incidents unless contrary instructions are received from the Department.

1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
WLM:aeo

Tolson
Parsons
Mohr
Belmont
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Tavel
Trotter
W.C. Sullivan
Tele. Room
Ingram
Gandy

MAIL ROOM [ ] TELETYPE UNIT [ ]

REC-85 157-3871-6

12 JUN 2 1961

62 JUN 13 1961

JUN 15 1961

MAY 31 1961 COMM-FBI

MAY 31 9 34 AM '61

RECEIVING ROOM

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6073

The Attorney General

At 10:12 a.m., Central Standard Time, May 30, 1961, a group of eight freedom riders arrived in Jackson, Mississippi, from New Orleans, Louisiana, by train. They were arrested without incident when they entered the white waiting room and refused to leave. On the same date each was convicted of breach of the peace under Section 2087.5 of the Mississippi Code and the entire group remains in custody at Jackson.

There have been 52 freedom riders arrested at Jackson since the first group arrived there on May 24, 1961. Of those arrested, 8 have been released on bond and 44 remain in custody.

On [redacted] leaders of the United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., (UK) were allegedly called to a meeting near [redacted] Grand Dragon [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] who were previously arrested in connection with the burning of the Greyhound bus at Anniston, Alabama, on May 14, 1961, were bound over for the grand jury at a hearing before the U. S. Commissioner at Anniston on May 29, 1961. The other two subjects who were arrested with [redacted] have waived their preliminary hearings.

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The Attorney General

[redacted] one of those arrested with [redacted] was released on bond on May 23, 1961. [redacted] a Klan leader who arranged for [redacted] bond, informed the U. S. Commissioner that he had a net worth of [redacted] and that [redacted] It has been determined that there is [redacted] against [redacted] This is being discussed with the U. S. Attorney in Birmingham with regard to possible prosecution under the Fraud Against the Government Statute, Title 18, Section 1001, U. S. Code.

In connection with the injunction hearing being held at Montgomery, Alabama, [redacted] was held in contempt of court and released on his own recognizance when he refused to testify and invoked the Fifth Amendment.

The White House was picketed on May 30, 1961, by a group which came by bus from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and New York City. There were approximately 145 participants who carried placards bearing slogans in support of the freedom riders. There were no incidents.

The pickets were allegedly sponsored by the "Washington Freedom Riders Committee," 303 West 125th Street, New York City. Flyers issued by the pickets included the Progressive Youth Organizing Committee and Advance as participating organizations. Both of these organizations are known to have Communist Party connections.

All aspects of this investigation are continuing to receive the most vigorous attention and further developments will be brought to the attention of the Department.

1 - Mr. Byron R. White
Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Burke Marshall

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

1 - Assistant Attorney General
J. Walter Yeagley